

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Dedication	61
The Outlook—Ignoring the Women—The Wirepullers Know—	
Following Up the Victory—Downing-street Raid—To New	
Readers	61, 62
Messages of Encouragement to Women:—Lawrence Housman,	
Alexr. Webster, Maud Arncliffe Sennett, Florence W.	
Herberton	63
Frenchwomen and Englishwomen. By Mlle. Claire de Pratz	64
What "Votes for Women" Means to Men. By F. W. Pethick	
Lawrence	65
Self-Denial Week. By Emmeline Pethick Lawrence ..	66
Poem:—Joan of Arc. By Annie Williams	66
Messages from the Prisoners.. .. .	66
The By-elections	67
Leading Article:—Bodkin Tactics	68
National Campaign. By Christabel Pankhurst	69, 70
Letter to the "Suffragettes"	70
Women in Other Lands	71
Horticultural Hall Meeting	71
The History of the Suffrage Movement. By Sylvia Pankhurst	72, 73
Programme of Events.. .. .	73
Feeling in Lancashire	74
Scottish Notes	74
London and the Provinces	74
Press Extracts	76
Contributions to the £20,000 Fund	76

DEDICATION.

To the brave women who to-day are fighting for freedom: to the noble women who all down the ages kept the flag flying and looked forward to this day without seeing it: to all women all over the world, of whatever race, or creed, or calling, whether they be with us or against us in this fight, we dedicate this paper.

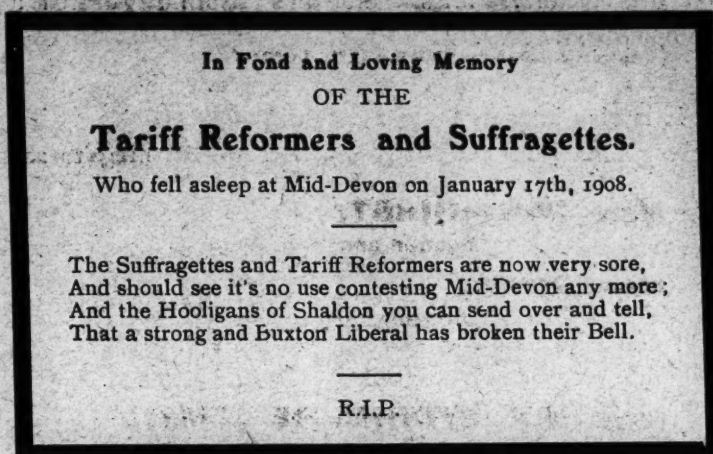
THE OUTLOOK.

Few events have been more startling in the Woman Suffrage campaign than the defeat of the Liberal in Mid-Devon. Mr. Chas. Buxton, the Liberal candidate, had personally many points to recommend him to the electors, and his party were confident of his retaining the seat by a substantial margin. Yet not only was the large previous majority of 1,289 votes completely wiped out, but an adverse majority of 559 was built up. This is the more remarkable in that the seat has never before, even at the high tide of Conservative success, been held by any but a Liberal. Those who had gauged the probable result of the election beforehand from the ordinary party stand-points were quite unprepared for this sweeping victory, and there is not the least doubt that the women who had fought the election with more than their usual energy have the right to claim it as due to their exertions.

Ignoring Women.

It is, perhaps, natural that Conservative politicians and the Conservative Press should ignore the part played by the women, and should announce the result as a victory for tariff reform. It is rather more surprising to find

that the Liberal Press, in spite of its professed advocacy of Woman Suffrage, and its detestation of tariff reform, should prefer to take the same view, and that Mr. Buxton himself, if reported correctly, should be similarly minded. It was otherwise in the constituency during the election, as is suggested by the amusing mourning card reproduced below, which the Liberals got out in over-confidence before the result was declared.



It was otherwise, too, in Newton Abbot after the declaration of the poll, when Liberal rowdies wreaked their vengeance upon Mrs. Pankhurst and Mrs. Martel as the principal agents in their defeat.

The Wirepullers Know.

But whatever the view expressed in public, there is not the least doubt that those in the inside ring of politics on both sides are cognisant of the real facts. Being kept well informed of the details of the election by their agents, it will not have escaped their notice that in the essentially Liberal districts where the tariff reformers were refused a hearing, the women time after time found an attentive and even sympathetic audience. However much the Liberal papers may delude the public, Liberal statesmen know that the Women's Social and Political Union, in its by-election policy, possesses a weapon which can do them serious injury, not merely by losing them a vote in the House of Commons, but by injuring their prestige in the country, the inevitable result of the defeat of their nominees at the poll. It may be true that for the present they prefer to harden their hearts against this form of pressure, but such obstinacy cannot avail them in the long run.

Following Up the Victory.

At present the women are busy following up their victory in other parts of the country. Mrs. Pankhurst, Mrs. Martel, Mrs. Massy, and others, are holding enthusiastic meetings in South Herefordshire, and the value of their propagandist work is attested by the correspondent of the *Morning Post*, who, on January 27, wrote:—

On my way from Ledbury to Ross I passed through many picturesque villages. One could not help admiring the energy with which the ladies who are working to secure votes for women are covering the district. On the railings in the small villages I saw

chalked up announcements of meetings which had been held or were to be held. It may safely be said that, whatever may be the result of the election, the representatives of the Women's National Social and Political Union will have carried the question of votes for women into hamlets which neither of the two great parties has reached.

In Worcestershire the Union is represented by Miss Keevil, the Misses Dugdale, and a number of other women who have already made considerable impression on the electors. Miss Sidley has also inaugurated a campaign in Leeds.

Revolt of Liberal Women.

It is also interesting to notice the steady and growing revolt among Liberal women, who are beginning to see that if they are prepared to take a firm line they can compel the Government to accede to them their reasonable demands. The Women's Liberal Federation held a crowded meeting in the Queen's Hall, London, on January 24, attended and addressed solely by women. And several of the speakers took up a more vigorous line than has been previously the case. Thus Miss Florence Balgarnie is reported to have said:—

We have been hewers of wood and drawers of water for the Liberal Party too long. We must look out for ourselves. If these words are in due course followed by deeds, the Liberal Government will find they have more than one enemy to face if they persist in their refusal to enfranchise women during the present Parliament.

Protests at Meetings.

Meanwhile, the Women's Social and Political Union has been pursuing various means of bringing the question before the public. In addition to holding several hundred meetings in the by-elections and all over the country in support of their cause, the members have continued in their protests at the meetings of Cabinet Ministers, where they have been present, in spite of the most elaborate precautions to keep them out. Mr. Asquith, Mr. Haldane, Mr. Birrell, Mr. Winston Churchill, and others have been treated in this way at various places.

The Downing Street Raid.

Another protest which led to the arrest and imprisonment of five women took the form of an attempt to appeal direct to the Cabinet Council in Downing-street. Though the police prevented, as was anticipated, the actual entrance of the women into the Council chamber, one of the women succeeded in making her way into the house, and others, by chaining themselves to the railings, were able to make speeches before being removed. The majority of the public clearly understand that these protests are rendered necessary by the refusal of the Government to be influenced by the orderly agitation which women have been conducting for many years, and by the refusal of the Press to report any proceedings except those which the women have now adopted. The ridicule which in the early days was poured upon the Suffragettes now finds its mark in the Cabinet Ministers, who have gone to every Council meeting since January 17, guarded by a numerous posse of police.

Treatment of the Prisoners.

The women who have acted deliberately with the view of calling attention to the condition of outlawry of their sex, accepted imprisonment without question when given the choice by the magistrate, nor are they likely to make

complaint of the treatment which they receive. But the public, who sometimes imagine that the penalty which these women are content to face is a light one, may like to know that they have none of the easy discipline which is meted out to political prisoners, but are treated exactly as pickpockets or other criminals, and that the Home Office has taken advantage of the fact that Parliament is not sitting to revert to its original method of forbidding the suffrage prisoners the right to see their friends or to receive books or newspapers, and will not mitigate in any way the rigours of prison life, solitary confinement, and prison fare, to which they are subject.

Features of this Number.

The messages of encouragement to women which we publish this month include one from Viscountess Harberton, who, it will be remembered, led the deputation to the House of Commons at the opening of Parliament last year, one from Mr. Lawrence Housman, the well-known writer and artist, one from Mrs. Sennett, who, in spite of her busy life, has for some time devoted time and means to the cause, and one from Mr. Alexander Webster, the man who suffered for his plucky defence of the women at Mr. Asquith's meeting in Aberdeen. Mlle. Claire de Pratz contributes an interesting article comparing the political methods of French women and English women. Mr. Pethick Lawrence writes on "What Votes for Women Means to Men." Miss Sylvia Pankhurst provides a further interesting chapter of her history of the suffrage movement. The accounts of the happenings of the month are also of special interest—the description of the campaign by Miss Christabel Pankhurst, the most recent work in the by-elections, and the activities of the local W.S.P.U.'s in different parts of the country. It is impossible to give more than a few quotations from the many interesting paragraphs that have appeared in the Press, but one or two extracts will be found on p. 76.

To New Readers.

In the form in which it appears in this number VOTES FOR WOMEN is issued as a *monthly* newspaper, and contains articles and other material likely to be of special interest to the general public. A uniform price of 3d. a copy is charged, or (as it cannot be registered at the Post Office as a newspaper, which only recognises weekly publications) it will be sent post free to any address within the postal union for 4d. a copy. In each of those weeks in which the monthly VOTES FOR WOMEN is *not* published a special four-page sheet is issued containing all the principal news of the movement—an account of the happenings of the week gone by, and a programme of prospective arrangements for the week to come. This weekly bulletin will be known as the *Votes for Women Supplement*,* and will be sold for ½d. (by post 1d.).

In the course of the year there will be twelve monthly numbers of the paper, and forty weekly supplements. Subscribers will be able to obtain the paper either through their newsagents, or through local W.S.P.U.'s, or by post direct from the offices of the paper, 4, Clements Inn, W.C. The subscription for the year for all the issues and supplements is 7s. 4d., inclusive of postage; for the twelve monthly issues only, 4s.

* The Supplements to the present February number will accordingly be issued on February 6, February 13, February 20, and the March number will be ready on February 27.

MESSAGES OF ENCOURAGEMENT TO WOMEN.

May I be allowed to say that I began with a hearty prejudice against your methods. But in spite of the mendacity and hypocritical concealments of the Press, as soon as your point was made clear to me, I perceived the justification of your action. It is not sufficiently understood that your breaking-up of Ministers' public meetings has only followed the persistent refusal of members of the Government to answer one single question presented peaceably at the ordinary time when questions are invited; and if Ministers prefer to have their meetings disturbed rather than give an answer to that question they are martyrs to their own dishonesty.

So much for your methods. To your cause I have long been a convert. As surely as just legislation for the working man had to wait till Labour itself was enfranchised, so surely will just legislation for women be delayed until the power of the vote is given them. And not just legislation for women only, but for the whole body politic, for we men have but one half of the knowledge, and sometimes less than one-half of the will requisite for right dealing with the community as a whole; and wherever in our laws, or our lack of laws, cruelty and stupidity are most apparent, we are paying the penalty for not receiving into equal counsel with ourselves those who alone can make our insight and vision complete. The only power which can lift our social legislation from its present basis of hard commercialism, accentuated by trade competition and class antagonism, and place it upon a more truly domestic and humane footing, is that which women, when enfranchised, can exercise.

There is no great question before the community which the voices of the women cannot help us to solve; there is no great blot upon our legislation in the past which is not in part a result of that want which you have raised into a public cry.

Lawrence Housman.

The awakened women who are seeking their due share in an adjusted political and economic life are not so much in need of incitement as the men who profess sympathy, yet withhold help.

I therefore ask you to allow me to reproduce the illuminative and inspiring words of Mazzini, addressed to the "sons and daughters of the people" fifty years ago:—"Love and respect woman. Seek in her not merely a comfort, but a force, an inspiration, the redoubling of your intellectual and moral faculties.

"Cancel from your minds every idea of superiority over woman. You have none whatever.

"Long prejudice, an inferior education, and a perennial legal inequality and injustice have created that *apparent* intellectual inferiority which has been converted into an argument for continued oppression.

"In the sight of God there is neither man nor woman. There is only the human being. Like two distinct branches springing from the same trunk, man and woman are varieties springing from the common basis—Humanity. There is no inequality between them, but even as is often the case among men, diversity of tendency and of special vocation. Are two notes of the same musical chord unequal or of different nature? Man and woman are the two notes without which the human chord is impossible.

"Consider woman, therefore, as the partner and companion, not merely of your joys and sorrows, but of your thoughts, your aspirations, your studies, and your en-

deavours after social amelioration. Consider her your equal in your civil and political life. Be ye the two human wings that lift the soul towards the ideal we are destined to attain."

May the Spirit of Ascension possess the wings in sublime strength!

Alexr. Webster.

When Carlyle was made Lord Rector of Edinburgh University his message to the students was, "We bid you hope."

When Miss Ellen Terry was recently asked for a message to beginners, she wrote, "Work, work, work." In trying to uphold our cause, I am inclined to link these messages together, and emphasise the latter.

Dear women, "Work, work, work." Do not let the burden fall on the few, for none but themselves can ever know it is costing them.

Show you can be comrades in a cause—be loyal—stand always by the leaders, remembering their responsibilities, and that they cannot stand the strain for ever. I should say keep "Votes for Women" written on your brains, "Always encourage another Suffragist; she is doing her best; we should be glad to have her." "Never turn your back on an idea which might help the cause, but straight way act on it—act *at once*. Never listen to the nonsense which has been written and discussed as to methods injuring the cause." A great living surgeon has written, "Whatever may be said of methods, always judge of the results." Judge, then, of the results of our past two years. Follow the leaders, and "Work, work, work!"

Maud Arncliffe Sennett.

I rejoice to think that at last the majority of women have come to realise the enormous debt of gratitude we owe to that very small band of women who, in the spring of 1906, made the first effectual move towards liberating Englishwomen from the position of serfdom to which men's laws have hitherto relegated us. I do not know whether the intelligence that perceived the line of conduct which ought to be adopted, or the physical courage that shrank from no pain, danger, or fatigue in carrying out the plans, is the more admirable. But I am confident that nowhere in the annals of history has anything nobler been undertaken. It had the true heroism of a leap into the unknown.

It now lies with all of us, the women of Britain, to follow where these have shown the way, until at last we gain our point. We may not all be able to speak. We may not all be even able to fight. But our moral support we can and ought to give. Silencing criticism, and refusing our friendship, even to "boycotting," to any of those unmanly, unsexed men, who, calling themselves "stewards," have degraded themselves by laying a hand upon any woman who has merely raised her voice at some meeting, to demand the charter of liberty that those very men themselves know is one of their own most valued possessions, viz., enfranchisement. In many ways in private life women might thus bring home to men how the cowardice of their conduct has disgusted all women. And they may be assured that action of this sort will be a powerful lever in helping on the good work.

Florence W. Harberton.

FRENCH WOMEN AND ENGLISH WOMEN.

By Mlle. CLAIRE DE PRATZ.

The author of this article is well known in France as "The Chief Inspectress of Public Charities." She is a descendant of Mme. Sevigné and niece of a former French Premier. There are only four chief inspectresses for the whole of France, and, in addition to this work, Mlle. de Pratz will shortly publish a novel she has written entitled, "Eve Norris."

Mlle. de Pratz, after completing her education in France, came to England and took a course at Queen's College, London. She is at present at work on a French play, which is based on her book, and is to be produced in one of the large Parisian theatres.

She takes a keen interest in the suffrage agitation both in her own country and in England, and has specially contributed the present article to VOTES FOR WOMEN, to show her sympathy with the work that is being done here.

When little French girls are taught history at school, they learn that when the English wanted reforms they went to work in a silent way, getting their rights by degrees, and making their revolution bit by bit. The French, on the contrary, waited, and possessed their souls long in patience, until one day, when things got a bit too strong, they rose in a furious mass, and made the French Revolution, winning all their liberties at once, instead of gaining them one by one like the English. Now, it is very interesting to note that the political methods of the men of England are precisely the contrary of those employed by the modern political Englishwomen, while in France the Frenchwomen have also adopted the reverse methods of their own men.

And there is a very good reason for this. There is a large body of French *Féministes* who are striving for their rights by uniting in groups, making up leagues, and so forth, and all are most useful in a way, but there is nothing so really efficacious taking place in France to-day as the quiet, concentrated and unanimous effort of all Frenchwomen for their individual enfranchisement. Each woman in France to-day—in her capacity of wife, mother, sister, or friend—is working silently to one end. Each is convincing her own husband or the men around her, and it is astounding to note how in a very few years (since women began to be educated by the French Republic), *féministe* ideas have gained among all the men of France. Of course, to begin with, France is a woman's country. The Frenchman is devoted to the cult of *Woman*. He adores *la femme*, and he is more than nine-tenths convinced that she is the better half of humanity. In his home life, as in his business—be that what it may—he consults his wife upon every detail, and the Frenchman's most intimate counsellor and friend is always his wife, mother, or sister.

Frenchwomen have, therefore, chosen the right means of gaining their ends in their own country. To be *féministe* they must first be *feminine*.

Heart and Soul with the Suffragettes.

What do they think of the methods of the English suffragette? Well, they are heart and soul with her—believe that from one who knows. And they think, too—so far as they can judge (and they rightly believe in the practical common-sense of women all over the world)—that if the Englishwomen thinks that making rows is going to do the business, then the Englishwoman has chosen the right method for her own country. She must, therefore, make as many public meetings, demonstrations, and rows as she possibly can, since at home she cannot convince the Englishman that the woman's point of view is necessary. For the Englishman who dispenses with his wife's opinion in the management of his own affairs thinks that he can do without it in the management

of the State, whereas the Frenchman, who recognises the value of the feminine point of view in his private interests, is already three parts gained towards realising her importance in the field of politics. For years Englishwomen have asked for their rights courtedly and politely, and no one has listened to them, so that now they are acting quite rationally by clamouring for those rights in a loud voice that will be heard all over the country. They are only following the methods of the Frenchmen during the Revolution. And no great Revolution has ever been made by quiet and soft-spoken people.

But the Frenchwoman—who is the idol of France, LA FEMME!—will win her rights rather by Evolution than by Revolution. Her methods would not succeed with the Englishman. That has become evident to us over here, from the manner in which so-called educated men and gentlemen have treated even the most reasonable and refined woman speakers at public meetings in England. Those Frenchmen who read the accounts of some of those political meetings in England, where women were hooted down with the vulgar epithets that hitherto had only been heard outside Whitechapel public-houses, were heartily disgusted with the attitude of Englishmen towards their own women, and in France English suffragettes have consequently gained an enormous amount of sympathy all round because of the coarse persecution they have suffered in their own country. Unfortunately, the sympathies of the men of France will not aid the English Suffragette very much. But the sympathy of the women of France will be helpful. And the Frenchwomen say to the Englishwomen: "Go on in your own way, and we will go on in ours, and in the end we shall win the battle together."

Votes for Women in the Eternal City.

A very interesting—and one would be inclined to think rather unique—gathering, for the Eternal City, took place in Rome during the first week of the New Year.

At the invitation of the two resident lady doctors, Dr. Bensusan and Dr. Taylor, a meeting was held in their house to discuss the need of granting the franchise to women, and the methods employed by the N.W.S.P.U. towards gaining it.

The former subject was dealt with very successfully by Miss Naubet, who represented the London Society for Women's Suffrage. She reviewed the movement from its origin, and showed some aspects of the injustice done to women in denying them the vote.

Miss Mordan, of the N.W.S.P.U., followed with an eloquent speech, explaining the need for immediate legislation, and justifying the methods of the Union.

Numerous questions followed, and were ably answered, and an animated discussion took place, after which the resolution in favour of the immediate enfranchisement of women was put to the meeting by Dr. Taylor, and carried, with one dissentient.

The gathering was a very representative one, there being besides English women, Italian, German, and Belgian women, Frau Wederkind, a co-worker of Dr. Anita Augspurg, and long time a fighter for German women, was present, and helped considerably in the discussion.

We do not know if this is the first women's suffrage meeting Rome has seen, but we hope and think it will not be the last, as much interest was aroused by the meeting, and fresh hope given to those already convinced, who are bound to live far away from the active movement.

WANTED, a highly respectable young Married Couple, without encumbrance, to live in flat; rent free; man to follow his usual avocation, woman to attend to small family and to wait at table.—Address, "200," care of "Votes for Women," Advertisement Department, 4, Clements Inn, London, W.C.

WHAT "VOTES FOR WOMEN" MEANS TO MEN.

BY F. W. PETHICK LAWRENCE.

I think the majority of men by this time are quite reconciled to the idea of women possessing the vote. "I suppose they'll get it some day before very long," or "I don't see why they shouldn't have it," are remarks that are more currently made now than the hostile or contemptuous references which were usual but a little while back.

There have been many reasons for this change of view. In the first place, the average Englishman very rarely takes the trouble to think until he is obliged to do so; up till recently he had never thought at all seriously on the question of votes for women, but somewhere at the back of his mind he had a vague feeling that it was all nonsense, and nonsense of the kind about which he and all his "womenfolk" would do well to remain in ignorance. Now by a process which he has found not wholly unpleasant he has been compelled to think on this question. He has gone to some friend who supplies him with his political make-up for reasons on which to base his long-established prejudice, only to find his friend's logic somewhat unconvincing; it is true that both of them ended their discussion on the first day by some such remark as "But however specious their claim, we know it is all nonsense;" but, nevertheless, his reasoning faculties, once called into action, have gradually made headway against his instinct.

Interest in the Suffragettes.

Another cause for the alteration in his standpoint has been the growing interest which he has taken in the "Suffragettes," whose doings have not infrequently served to make his daily paper exciting when it would otherwise have been dull. He has learnt by this time that they are something very different in appearance and general characteristics from the type of women whom he had early depicted; and his interest has been not unmixed with admiration for the pluck and "cuteness" which they have shown in their militant campaign. Added to this, he has been heard to remark that if *Votes for Women* is going to make all women like the suffragettes, he is not so sure that it is going to be such a bad thing after all.

And here he has struck across a serious truth, for though he would hardly admit it even to himself, he has realised that a woman, like a man, is all the better when she has got something in her life, other than her daily routine, which can serve to fire her interest and fill her with enthusiasm.

But he is still not wholly convinced; he has got a few reservations at the back of his mind, which make his steps towards what he is beginning to regard as the Inevitable, slow and unwilling. In the first place, he still regards woman as a sentimentalist, who if possessed of any legislative influence will use it puritanically, to the exclusion of his means of enjoyment. Here, again, he has been reassured in considerable measure by the *personnel* of the suffragettes, but some of his misgivings remain, and are likely to remain until women, by the actual exercise of the vote, demonstrate that their influence is given not in restraint of innocent amusement, but in favour of healthier and happier conditions for men and women, and particularly for the children, who are women's special care.

Will Women "Play the Game"?

His second objection is harder to embody in any single concrete thought; but it is, perhaps, expressed by saying that "women do not *play the game*." In this he sums up at once his own failure to understand women's actions, their ignorance of the rules and customs and experiences of the external world, and lastly, the difference in outlook between the man and the woman upon life.

It is certainly true that women outside the industrial ranks are not so well acquainted with the general way in which "things are done" as are men. And this ignorance on their part is, and will be, a loss to the community at large so long as they remain inexperienced. But it is just this present movement for the wider independence of women of which the vote is the necessary expression, that is giving to those women the experience of which they are in need. For, contrary to what some men suppose, they themselves have learned to play the game, not by their inherent wonderful cleverness, but by coming into contact with the forces around them. Thus it will not be long before, in this sense, women are able "to play the game" as well as men.

But the game that women will play when they have gained their experience will not necessarily be the same game that men play, and, in fact, it is all the better that it should be different. Men often say: "We do not want women to learn to enter into public life; it is not always of the highest morality, and we would rather that our women remained as they are." Women's code of morality in business can well afford to differ from that the men have adopted. Women's attitude upon political questions will differ also.

How a Man Learns.

When a young man goes into business he is surrounded by advice from all kinds of people. If he is made of any grit at all, he accepts very little of it, but goes straight on with his work in his own way, and when he has made a success of his life his biographers dilate upon the wonderful independence of his mind, which refused to be bound down by ordinary conventions or rules.

Again in the political world, the newspapers of one party are constantly giving advice to the politicians of another. It is hardly possible to open the pages of a Liberal journal without learning how much better the Conservatives would serve their own ends if they changed their policy. Or, again, in the Conservative papers, what a mistake the Liberals are making in acting as they do. I wonder what men would think of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman or Mr. Balfour if they changed their policy or tactics in deference to such criticism. The fact is that men regard all such advice as *part of the game*, and the man wins (as he would do in any other game of bluff) who, having chosen the course which recommends itself most to his judgment, sticks to it until he comes out successful.

In just the same way women, using all the judgment and experience gained in the struggle, will learn to play the game—their own game—and not that of the men.

Finally, men used to dread the entrance of women into "their world," and the competition of women on equal terms with themselves. But while the better of them have always realised that this desire to handicap women in their competition was wholly unworthy of their manhood, and in complete variance with their theories of man's protection of the weaker sex, the more intelligent are also beginning to realise that whatever they have to fear from women's competition on equal terms, they have far more to fear while women are forced to offer their services at rates which undercut those which men are demanding.

The opposition of men to votes for women is far less today than it was a few months back. In a little while it will be almost gone. And when the thing is done, as it must be in a little while, men will be not slow to find, as they have in other countries, the advantages which they gain for themselves by Votes for Women.

Joan of Arc.

"Yes! my voices were of God!" she suddenly cried as the last moment came; "they have never deceived me!" Soon the flames reached her, the girl's head sank on her breast, there was one cry of "Jesus!" "We are lost," an English soldier muttered as the crowd broke up; "we have burned a saint."—*Green's "Short History of the English People."*

"My voices were of God"—lull'd was thy pain,
And thou, a child beneath the forest trees,
Didst hear once more the sweet bells on the breeze,
And in ecstatic dreams didst live again.
The crackling death-brands seem'd but the rain
Falling in spring time on the tender leaves;
Foul ribald words—birds twitt'ring on the eaves,
And fire—God's sunshine sleeping on the plain.
Heroic Maid! Thy voice, through all the years,
Rebukes with strange sweet power our unbelief,
Our apathetic lives, our faithless fears,
And broodings chill, that add to human grief.
If faith and love like thine our hearts could fire,
We, too, should hear the "voices" that inspire.

ANNIE WILLIAMS.

Greetings from the Prisoners.

We have struck another blow for freedom. As usual, we were told on January 17, to "Move on!" I said, "That is just what we women mean to do. We will 'Move on.' Ever forward."

Edith New.

We are carrying on this struggle that will never end except in victory. Who will follow? The sharper the conflict, the shorter it will be. Let our friends never forget this, nor that every sacrifice brings us near to the triumph of justice and freedom.

Flora Drummond.
Elizabeth McArthur.
Frances Thompson.
Olive Smith.

SELF DENIAL WEEK.

February 13 to February 22.

Before the next monthly number of VOTES FOR WOMEN is published, "Self-Denial Week" will have come and gone.

For directly upon the conclusion of the Women's Parliament, which ends on Thursday, February 13, begins this week set aside for strenuous effort on the part of each and all of us for the extension of our movement, and especially for the raising of a great campaign fund.

Already I have received a large number of letters, which augur well for the success of this week of united endeavour, some bringing me valuable suggestions for raising funds, some telling of projects already set on foot, all full of the spirit of enthusiasm and co-operation.

I have set my mind on a large aggregate sum, and I hope that my expectations will be fulfilled—a full war chest means so much to this movement just now. The question as to whether we win votes for women this year may turn on the extent and the success of our militant organisation during the next six months; and our organisation cannot maintain its efficiency, and cannot press home the advantage gained by the courage and genius of our soldiers, if it is hampered by lack of funds.

There are many ways in which everyone, however pressed by home cares or business cares, can help.

1. A special collecting card will be sent out to every member on our membership roll. This card can be hung upon a nail on the walls at home, and every member of the family and every visitor can be asked to give some contribution, or it can be taken from house to house, and be made an excellent pretext for canvassing work. Many converts might be made during this week by house-to-house canvass, and their names added to our membership roll.

2. Special meetings can be held in cottages or drawing-rooms or public halls, and collections taken for the National Campaign Fund.

3. One or two of our local unions are getting police permission for taking street collections. Each local union is ordering its own collecting boxes, and taking the entire responsibility and management of the scheme.

4. Another of our local unions is applying to the manager of the local theatre and music-hall to be granted the opportunity of send-

ing a suffragette to give a ten minutes' speech on votes for women during the interval between the acts, collecting boxes to be afterwards held at the doors by the members of the union.

5. One of our members will arrange a concert in her drawing-room, and charge for admission. Another will organise a whist drive, and send all proceeds to headquarters. Another one will invite herself out to every meal during that week, and will take her collecting card with her everywhere, and give the cost of a week's housekeeping and the proceeds of a week's begging all to the fund! Another member writes, saying that she is going to make marmalade, and exhibit it for sale in her window, with an announcement that the proceeds will go to the National W.S.P.U. Fund.

6. Another suggests that working women should set aside one day's pay, and that women who are well off should spare one week's income.

7. Another, trained in Dresden as a violin teacher, is willing to give lessons, and put the proceeds to the funds.

8. Another suggests that women should let their friends know that they would like to have a subscription for the Union instead of a personal present when their birthday comes round.

9. One more suggestion is that trinkets, jewellery, and valuables should be sent to headquarters to be sold.

Space prevents more here; but a great many other suggestions will be found scattered through the columns of this paper, particularly in the section devoted to the reports from local Unions. The aggregate amount raised during Self-Denial Week will be kept a secret until March 19, when it will be announced at the great demonstration in the Royal Albert Hall.

The spirit which is in this movement is the spirit of self-giving. We know that we have in our midst those who are ready, and have proved themselves ready, to pour out their energy, their life, if they may win thereby this great reform. And we must all be ready to pour out our substance and our money, for this is the least we can do. We thus take our share in the great fight, and we shall thus win our share in the great victory. One and all, let us put forth our utmost endeavour to turn Self-Denial Week to the fullest possible account.

EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE.

To the Editor of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

DEAR SIR,—All members of the N.W.S.P.U. who have read the account of the women's attempt to lay before the Cabinet to-day women's claim to political rights thrill with admiration at the dauntless courage of some members of the Union. Many say: "If I were only free, I would be one," and in many cases this is true. Many dare not go to prison, for it would entail loss of work, which would mean loss of subsistence, not only for themselves, but for others—their children, their fathers, or their mothers, who may be dependent upon them for their very food, clothing, and housing. But I would suggest that those who are thus situated can help by giving money, say, whenever they read of the imprisonment of one or more members of our Union they send a donation to the Propaganda Fund.

I think it would be a pleasure to those in prison to know that not only were they bringing pressure to bear on a Government who is so despicable as to admit the justice of our cause and yet refuses to do anything to further that cause, but also they would know that indirectly they were helping financially. I would further suggest that all contributions so sent should be marked "Prisoners' Fund," so that our friends in prison on their release might know how much they had earned.

78A, Streatham Hill, S.W.

NELLIE E. SMITH.

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THE BY-ELECTIONS.

Herefordshire (Ross).

Liberal F. Whitely Thompson.
Unionist Captain Percy A. Clive.

Figures at the General Election were: Lt.-Col. Alan C. Gardiner (Lib.), 4,497; Capt. Percy A. Clive (Cons.), 4,185. Liberal majority, 312.

By the time VOTES FOR WOMEN is in the hands of its readers, almost the last shot will have been fired in the campaign. We are arranging an extensive programme for the last few days, covering final meetings in every part of the constituency. Our work has attracted very considerable attention, as is attested by the extract from the *Morning Post* on page 61.

We had two splendid meetings in Hereford on Saturday, January 25. The women's meeting was capital, for no less than five hundred women were present, and as Saturday is a busy day for the housewife, this was very encouraging. At night the Drill Hall was packed, and people were waiting at the doors long before they were opened. The Mayor and Chief Constable were present, and I noticed a great many clergymen among the audience. It was a bright and enthusiastic meeting, and the points of our arguments gained tremendous applause; and when question time arrived a man's voice shouted, "We are convinced." Again and again they cheered when I said Ross would follow Mid-Devon, Worcester would follow Ross, and so on. Many Liberals were there, and the collections for the day amounted to about £12. What a change in the last few months. The change in the attitude of the Liberal women is striking, and everything shows that the tide is now going strong for us.

EMMELINE PANKHURST.

Report of the Ross Centre.

We have had a very busy week in this part of the constituency, having held 13 meetings. Wednesday I went to Hereford for the market day, and Mrs. Massy and I had two most successful meetings, and a large crowd followed to the station to send me off with cheers. On Friday I had quite a novel experience in Whitchurch, at the night meeting, which was to be held outside the Crown Hotel. This village has no street lamps, and I took my stand on a lorry with a candle lantern. Just as I commenced to speak I was struck with a stone, and someone beat on a tin tea-tray. I stopped speaking, and told them if they did not want to hear I did not want to speak, I was rather tired, and should rest until the trap came to take me to the station. I remained sitting on the edge of the lorry about ten minutes, although asked by one or two to proceed with my speech. I was determined not to speak unless the noisy individuals asked me, and after a little consultation among them the noisy ones came up to the lorry and asked me to go on. I said I only wanted to speak to those who wished to hear my side, and as they did not I would just sit there and wait until my trap came up. At this they became anxious to hear me, and promised to listen if I would begin. I spoke 45 minutes, and, true to their promise, not a sound was made or a missile thrown. I kept them one hour and a quarter, and when I went into the hotel for a glass of hot milk before driving to the station, a policeman came in to say the men wished to apologise for their rudeness, and had they known I was only asking for votes like men, they would not have interfered, but if I would come again they would bring every one to hear me, and would assure me of a quiet hearing. Ultimately, I drove off with cheers and requests to "come again."

We are educating with our agitating, and a little more "pestering" in the right quarter may win Votes for Women.

NELLIE A. MARTEL.

Worcester (City).

Liberal Harold Elverston.
Conservative E. A. Goulding.

W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms, 28, Broad-street.

At the last Election the Conservative was returned by a majority of 129.

- Jan. 30.—G.W.R. Fitting Depot, 1 p.m.
Williamson Tinsmiths' Works, 1 p.m.
Diglis Pickling Works, 7.30.
Jan. 31.—G.W.R. Shed Depot, 1 p.m.
Evans' Vinegar Works, 1 p.m.
Co-operative Hall, Women's Meeting (Mrs. Pankhurst), 3 p.m.
Sheep Market (Mrs. Pankhurst), 7.30.
Debate in the Victoria Institute, 7.30.

- Feb. 1.—Sheep Market, 7.30.
Feb. 3.—Dent's Glove Works, 1.30.
Webb's Horsehair Works, 1.30.
Baylis's Printing Works, 7.30.
Sheep Market, 7.30.
Feb. 4.—Heenes and Froude's Iron Works, 1.30.
Lea and Perrin's Sauce Factory, 1.30.
Sheep Market, 7.30.
Feb. 5.—Bourne and Grove's Saw Mills, 1.30.
McNaught's Carriage Works, 1.30.
Star Hotel Reception (Mrs. Pankhurst and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence), at 3.
Edgar Street, 7.30.
Sheep Market, 7.30.
Feb. 6.—S. John's Railway Employees, 1.30.
Schett and Co., Seed Merchants, 1.30.
Carpenter's Brewery, 1.30.
Diglis Townsend's Flour Mills, 1.30.
Pitchcroft, 7.30.
Sheep Market, 7.30.
Feb. 7.—Expected date for polling.

Every Day.—Women's Meeting, at 3 p.m., in the Committee Rooms.
Public Meeting, at 7.30, in the Committee Rooms.

Work in Worcester is now in full swing. We have got fine committee rooms at 28, Broad-street, which are the centre of an interested crowd all day. And we have arranged an extensive programme of meetings, including dinner-hour meetings outside various works in the constituency, meetings for women in the afternoon, in the committee rooms and public meetings in the evening.

There is as yet no active campaigning on behalf of the candidates, as the writ has not yet been issued; but as soon as that is to hand, the election will begin in earnest.

Miss Una Dugdale and Miss Joan Dugdale have helped us all last week, and we have now the assistance of Miss Joachim, Miss Gibbs, and the Misses Brackenbury, and as soon as the Herefordshire by-election is over we are looking forward to the coming of Mrs. Pankhurst and several of her workers from there.

We find that VOTES FOR WOMEN is already beginning to excite a great deal of interest in the town, and we mean to invoke that interest to good purpose before polling day comes round.

GLADICE KEEVIL.

South Leeds.

Liberal Mr. William Middlebrook.
Conservative Mr. Reginald Neville, K.C.
Labour Mr. J. Pointer (Pattern Maker).

The figures at the General Election were: Sir J. L. Walton (L.), 6,200; Albert Fox (Lab.), 4,030; Sir H. F. Lucy (U.), 2,126.

- Jan. 30.—Larchfield Mill, Don sthorpe-street, 12.30.
Fowler's Steam Plough Works, Leathley-road, 12.30.
Briggate, 7.30.
Jan. 31.—Potter Dale Mill, Dewsbury-road, 12.30.
Low-road Mill, Low-road, 12.30.
Penyhill, 7.30.
Feb. 1.—Hunslet Moor, 3 p.m.
Cross Flats Park, 3 p.m.
Briggate, 7.30.
Feb. 2.—Hunslet Moor, 3 p.m.
Feb. 3.—Hunslet Flax Mill, Balm Beck, 12.30.
Chemical Works, Jack-lane, 12.30.
Carpet Mill, Clarence-road, 12.30.
Penyhill, 7.30.
Feb. 4.—New Pottery and Glass Works, Jack-lane, 12.30.
Brick Kilns, Hillidge-road, 12.30.
St. Helen's Felted Woollen Cloth Factory, Grape-street, 12.30.
Briggate, 7.30.
Feb. 5.—Steam Engine Factory, Water-lane, 12.30.
Cloth Mill, South Accommodation-street, 12.30.
Flint Mill, Jack-lane, 12.30.
Penyhill, 7.30.

We have lost no time in getting to work at Leeds. On Saturday, January 25, Miss Christabel Pankhurst and Mrs. Baines held the first big meeting, and Miss Pankhurst and I held another on Sunday. It is expected that with the beginning of February we shall have a number of helpers, some of whom will come on to us from Herefordshire.

MARGUERITE SIDLEY.

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VOTES FOR WOMEN.

February, 1908.

4, Clements Inn, Strand, W.C.

BODKIN TACTICS.

By the time this paper reaches the hands of our readers it will be known whether the twenty men who form the Liberal Cabinet have decided to acknowledge or to resist the claims of women to enfranchisement.

If the King's Speech contains a promise to introduce a Bill to give VOTES FOR WOMEN during the present Session our readers will understand that these men have chosen the wiser course of acting before compulsion is brought to bear upon them.

If the King's Speech is barren of any such promise, they will recognise that they intend to go blindly on in the belief that they are strong enough to withstand the women's demand.

Whichever course the members of the Cabinet adopt, the agitation will proceed with redoubled energy, in the one case to support them in their determination; in the other, to bring to bear upon them every available means of attack.

The women taking part in this movement know how vulnerable these men are, who, temporarily placed in a position of authority, are apt to imagine themselves above the common herd of men and women.

The women know how much their weapons (which Mr. Haldane calls bodkins) have troubled those at whom they have been directed. They know that they have injured them not merely politically, but personally.

They know that the defeat of a Liberal candidate at a by-election is a far greater loss to a party than can be measured by the loss of a single vote in the House of Commons.

They know how serious is the wound inflicted on the personal vanity of a Cabinet Minister when his best prepared utterances at a meeting are lost in the interest taken in a Suffragette interrupter, or when some fellow club man chaffs him about his continuous police escort and his elaborate precautions to exclude the women who cannot be excluded.

They understand the isolation in which these men are placed when the support of the country is removed from them, and when their prestige is gone.

For the power of these men does not rest on the fact that their intellectual or moral stature towers head and shoulders above their fellows but, upon the consent and approval of the public.

There is no doctrine of the divine right of Cabinet Ministers to which they can turn for succour. They are merely the superstructure supported by the will of those whom they govern.

The work of the women is directed towards the removal of the corner stones by which this superstructure is held up.

Up to the present enough of them remain in position to leave the building erect, and those who do not understand the signs of the times are apt to suppose that nothing effective has been accomplished.

But those who are wise know better. They see the coming catastrophe, and they wonder whether the Liberal Government will see it also before it is too late.

THE NATIONAL CAMPAIGN.

BY CHRISTABEL PANKHURST.

During January, we have made many successful protests at meetings addressed by Cabinet Ministers. Every conceivable precaution is taken to prevent the entrance of militant suffragists, but these precautions prove to be unavailing.

Lord Crewe, who is said to be one of the strongest opponents of Woman Suffrage in the Cabinet, was effectively heckled at Watford.

On January 15, Mr. Asquith spoke at Lancaster, and the one "Suffragette" present competed most successfully with him for the attention of the audience. So densely crowded was the hall, that the stewards were unable to eject her. Another source of embarrassment to Mr. Asquith was the fact that cheers from the woman suffrage meeting outside and at times the voice of the speaker herself, could be heard by his own audience and himself.

Immediately after Mr. Haldane had publicly advised Suffragists to be patient, two of his meetings were visited by members of the Union, who made such pointed interjections on Woman Suffrage that he must have felt greatly discomfited. It is interesting to note that in the course of one of his speeches Mr. Haldane, on being interrupted by a woman, said that the strong arm of the law must be invoked to deal with suffragettes, and in the next breath very inconsistently proceeded to state, *à propos* of political agitation conducted by men, that "you cannot coerce a democracy." It is the business of this Union to prove to Mr. Haldane that these words of his are true, not only as regards men, but as regards women too.

Mr. Birrell at Reading.

Mr. Birrell's visit to Reading was made the occasion of a vigorous protest. At the close of the meeting he remarked that notwithstanding what had happened he was still in favour of Woman Suffrage, and this is interesting, as showing that our Ministerial opponents begin to realise that we are not to be moved from our course by threats, and that for them to say they will cease to believe in Woman Suffrage makes matters worse for them instead of better. A big indignation meeting was held outside the hall by the ejected women. So much interest was excited in the town as the result of our protest that the success of the women's meeting which we shall hold there in the Public Hall on the evening of February 6, is assured.

On the same evening Mr. Winston Churchill reappeared in his constituency after a long absence, and though he is not a member of the Cabinet, we felt that a protest on our part was called for. It elicited from him a half jocular reference to our by-election policy, and its effect on the political situation in North-West Manchester.

On January 24, Mr. Asquith spoke at Norwich, and at this meeting, perhaps the most successful of all our protests was made.

The Union was represented at the opening of the rifle range on January 27. Mr. Haldane having said that he hoped the patriotism of the boys would develop with their physical training, a woman Suffragist stood up and exclaimed: "They are patriotic because they have the franchise." The interrupter was promptly removed, and Mr. Haldane said he trusted there would be no more interruptions, which were both irrelevant and tedious. A second Suffragist then made a remark, and as she was hustled out of the hall a flash-light photograph was taken of the scene. In proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Haldane, Mr. Rufus Isaacs said that evidently Suffragists, like Cabinet Ministers, had no rest.

The Mid-Devon triumph came almost as a surprise to ourselves, although those actually working in the consti-

tuency well knew that they were turning votes at every meeting. Lifelong Radicals and men who usually hold aloof from party politics voted "for the women" against the Government. The Tariff Reformers wish to claim credit for the victory, while official Liberals prefer to allege Protection rather than Woman Suffrage to be the cause of their defeat. Nevertheless, it has proved impossible entirely to conceal the fact of our influence from the public eye. Mr. Charles Buxton's very denial that we affected the result, and the violent attack upon Mrs. Pankhurst and Mrs. Martel by some of the Newton Abbot Liberals are significant to those who can read between the lines.

Our Policy Effective.

It is evident that the by-election work of the Union is to play a large part in bringing about the surrender of the Cabinet. At each by-election we are able to appeal with increased effect to the electors. Our militant action is firing the imagination and arousing the interest of the men voters, and they are now ready to range themselves on the side of the women as against the Government. The Mid-Devon success must be followed by others.

We have already had a very successful campaign in Herefordshire, where the polling takes place on January 31. Mrs. Pankhurst has had a most enthusiastic reception, and we are confident of defeating the Government nominee and losing the Liberal party another vote in the House of Commons.

Polling will take place during February at Worcester and South Leeds, and elections at Cheltenham, Reading, and North-West Manchester are probable. The Union will take an active part in all these contests.

At Worcester we hold each day in the committee room an afternoon meeting for women, and a general meeting in the evening. In addition there are numerous other open-air meetings.

Our first meeting was held in South Leeds on Saturday, January 26, and the earnestness and sympathy shown by the audience made us feel hopeful of a great victory on election day.

The Women's Parliament on the 11th, 12th, and 13th of this month and the by-election campaigns will not prevent us from doing educational work in various parts of the country during February, and several public meetings are already arranged. On and after February 3, the National Committee will be at home every Monday from 4 to 6 in the Small Portman Rooms, Baker-street, W. (Dorset-street entrance), and there will be a similar gathering every Thursday evening from 8 to 10 at 4, Clements Inn.

Our Nottingham friends intend to organise a strong local movement. The way has been prepared by the work of Miss Lamb and Miss Gye, who spent several weeks in the town; the exciting meeting which we held recently in the Mechanics' Hall, and the protest at Mr. Asquith's meeting have also helped.

That our by-election campaigns, beside affecting the poll, produce permanent results was proved by the success of the reception and demonstration in the Assembly Rooms, Hull, on January 15. The speakers had a most friendly reception, and a sum of about £60 was given and promised. A local Union has been formed, and the local members intend to be represented at the Women's Parliament in Caxton Hall, and to raise a large sum of money for the national campaign fund in Self Denial Week.

The Birmingham members have been busy throughout January with preparations for the Town Hall meeting held on the 31st.

In Lancashire Miss Annie Kenney, and in Yorkshire Miss Adela Pankhurst, have, with the assistance of local workers, been conducting special campaigns amongst women, and the result has been very encouraging. Proposals to curtail their employment and the example of the militant Suffragists have stirred the North of England women to a new and greater interest in the vote, and they flock to our meetings in a way they have never done before. The Lancashire Committee meets early in February in Preston, and will discuss many plans for strengthening the movement in the North.

During the past few weeks work has been done and meetings addressed at Ilkeston, Reigate, Bury, Manchester, East Ham, Maidstone, Brighton, St. Albans, Reading, Norwich, Brixton, Clapham, and Chelsea. At the Chelsea meeting, held in the Town Hall, not only were many offers of help made, but about £180 was raised.

On January 23, there was an important meeting in the Horticultural Hall.

At Hull, Brixton, and North St. Pancras our representatives have addressed Liberal audiences on the subject of the methods of the W.S.P.U.

We have been active in Scotland. New offices have been opened at 141, Bath-street, Glasgow. Miss Helen Fraser and Miss Mary Phillips have held a series of meetings in East Fife, Mr. Asquith's constituency. Mr. James Murray, M.P., arranged that I should speak at the annual social gathering of the Women's Liberal Association at Turrieff. On the following day there was a large meeting in Aberdeen, attended by the leading Liberal women and by others representing all parties. Nearly all those present voted in favour of Woman Suffrage, and the explanation of the new tactics was received with great favour. A few days later Mrs. Pethick Lawrence went to Scotland, where she addressed several meetings in Aberdeen and Glasgow.

Downing Street Protest.

The protest at 10, Downing-street, on the occasion of that Cabinet meeting on which the King's Speech was drafted, proved highly effective. Mrs. Drummond nearly succeeded in entering the Cabinet Room itself. The use of chains and padlocks to prevent the speedy removal of the demonstrators by the police excited the greatest interest. Very severe treatment was meted out to those arrested, for they have been sentenced to three weeks' imprisonment, under the same conditions as those imposed upon ordinary criminals. Our friends will leave Holloway Prison on Thursday, February 6, at eight o'clock in the morning, and will attend and speak at a breakfast at Eustace Miles' Restaurant, Charing Cross, at 9.15. Several members of the Union will welcome them at the prison gates. Readers of VOTES FOR WOMEN are invited to attend the breakfast, tickets for which, price 2s., may be obtained at 4, Clements Inn.

The released prisoners will speak on Monday afternoon, February 10, in the small Portman Rooms, Baker-street (Dorset-street entrance).

To ensure the success of the Women's Parliament is now the chief business of the Union. The place of meetings is the Caxton Hall, Westminster. The Women's Parliament will assemble at 3 o'clock on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, February 11, 12, and 13. In the evening of each day there will be a public meeting for women. Admission to the Parliament is 2s. 6d. and 6d. The tickets are on sale at 4, Clements Inn.

It is impossible to over-estimate the importance of this Women's Parliament. The newspapers are clamouring for information as to what we intend to do if the Government do not undertake to introduce a Women's Enfranchisement Bill. There is keen interest in our agitation, and if

the attitude of the Government makes it necessary for us to take militant action we shall have much public support.

The courage and determination shown hitherto by the members of the Union are bringing the people to our side. We must now be more ready than ever to prove that we are in earnest.

As to the Government, they are undoubtedly affected by our agitation, and the loss of support which our opposition means to them at by-elections, and the contempt and ridicule which they suffer in consequence of their ineffectual attempts to escape our protests, are certainly making them doubt the expediency of withholding the franchise from women.

The question now is, which side has the stronger will, the greater power of endurance, the women or the Government. Surely the women, because they have right on their side. The one thing needful is for every woman who wants the vote to feel her personal responsibility, and to realise that it is her duty to help to create a political crisis which shall force the Government to carry the Women's Enfranchisement Bill.

At the Women's Parliament women will have this opportunity of striking an effective blow for the political freedom of their sex. It may be many years before political conditions are so favourable to success as they are at present. We have the ear of the public, no more absorbing issue is to the fore, and it is essential that we should strike while the iron is hot and demand this Session the enfranchisement of women.

TO THE "SUFFRAGETTES."

DEAR SISTERS,—

You who are facing hardship and danger, and risking your lives for the cause of justice to women and the elevation of the race, please let me offer you my humble tribute of respect and sympathy.

I recognise you as belonging to the noble army of reformers and martyrs who, not excepting the Prince of Peace Himself, have in all ages been treated as pestilent disturbers of the peace.

Yours is the spirit of that gentlest and most determined of anti-slavery advocates, William Lloyd Garrison, who said:—"I will not retreat a single inch, and I *will* be heard." He was dragged through the streets of Boston, Massachusetts, with a rope round his neck, and barely escaped being done to death. But he lived to see the triumph of the cause for which he had suffered. May you be similarly rewarded!

Though fighting so strenuously against evil, he was a non-resistant. In your struggle, too, all the violence and ferocity are on the side of oppression. Recent accounts of the treatment some of you have received have made my heart burn with indignation; but I rejoiced to note, as even the report in an adverse paper showed, that though hustled, ill-used, and arrested, you remained reasonable, good-tempered, and cheerful, that while *fortiter in re*, you were *suaviter in modo*.

In the hostile paper above alluded to, I was surprised and pleased lately to see the remark that if women really desire the franchise they ought to have it, but the writer concluded by expressing doubts as to their caring for it. You have proved that we are in earnest. You have forced the subject into the light of common-sense, and made more glaring the anomaly of one-half of our race monopolising the regulation of matters which equally, or even more, concern the other half, classing women with criminals, imbeciles, and irresponsible children. You are rendering more obvious the contrast between the professed chivalry and the intrinsic barbarism of men. The gentleman slams the door in the lady's face, and refuses to listen to her, and if she persist in trying to make her voice heard, he sets his minions upon her, and has her dragged off to prison.

I am old and infirm, but even were I young and strong, not being cast in your heroic mould, I could not join your ranks. But I can admire your devotion and self-sacrifice, and at least contribute a little towards the needful sinews of war.

In conclusion, let me add that I am not only a woman, but an Irishwoman, and while desiring justice for my sex, I desire also justice for my country, suffering analogously from the arbitrary misrule of her dominant partner.

Dublin.

Yours for the right,
DEBORAH WEBB.

WOMEN IN OTHER LANDS.

AMERICA.

The first Suffrage open-air meeting has been held in New York. And oh, the sensation of the headlines which announced the occasion! **NEW YORK—BEWARE! FEMALE REVOLUTIONISTS! "FIRST GUN FIRED!"** And then, after all, a crop of very favourable and flattering reports. Here is one:—

The first gun in the warfare of the American suffragettes for the possession of the ballot was fired yesterday afternoon in front of the Metropolitan Life Building, Madison-square, by Mrs. B. Borrmann Wells, of England, while a score of cameras were levelled upon her from the tops of covered wagons that were conveniently scattered about the neighbourhood. The weather was bitterly cold, and the few clubwomen who had ventured out to see the fun, and found at three o'clock, the hour set for the meeting, not a suffragette in sight, predicted that they would not come, having been frightened out probably by the combined fear of inclement weather and public odium. But such prophets knew little of the mettle of the suffragettes, for before many minutes Mrs. Wells was seen standing on a trestle in front of the Metropolitan. Immediately the curious ones hastened thither. Reporters and photographers converged toward the same spot from all points of the compass, and in a few minutes a crowd had collected.

Two mounted policemen hovered upon the outskirts of the crowd, but the people gathered, not to make disorder, but to listen. And if those who threatened beforehand to break up the meeting were present at all, they kept entirely in the background, and altogether escaped notice.

New York had its sensation, and pronounced the first open-air Suffrage meeting "an unqualified success."

"Several people gave in their names as converts," writes Mrs. Borrmann Wells, in a letter to headquarters, and adds: "For the first time in my life I have deserved the name of 'Suffragette,'—and—I am proud of it."

"Before the meeting I had opposition right and left, the ladies were shocked beyond measure, it was not ladylike, not the American key, &c., &c., *ad nauseam*; but, since the meeting and the merciful reports, I have every reason to believe that this kind of agitation will be continued, and eventually become as energetic and effective as ours at home."

"Next Tuesday the second meeting is to take place—banners, buttons, and literature are in readiness, and I trust it will be a great success. I trust that from now the Americans fall into rank. Their action must, I feel sure, have its effect on the English movement, for the women will feel that thrill of fighting for one common cause side by side. It is that thought which has animated me, and it is of intense gratification that although I cannot fight with you in England I can still further the cause of the women."

Mrs. Borrmann Wells is right. A new sense of union and fellowship is growing amongst women all over the world, which is a great inspiration to those who are working to-day for the emancipation of their sex.

RUSSIA.

"Look in my eyes; see how they are full of light, how joyful they are. Well, then, let us smile and embrace. Forgive your Tola! She loved you very much, very much. Then she began to love all humanity, and now she has given herself to mankind."

These are the words written by a Russian girl who has lately been executed for taking part in the Russian Revolution—written in a letter to her mother a few hours before the death sentence was carried out.

In Russia to-day the Revolution depends, as in all times and in all countries great movements have depended in their early difficult stages, on the courage and devotion of women. When the reward comes and movements are successful, then, ah! then, women are told to go home and cook the dinner.

When the Church called for martyrs, then there was no sex exclusion—women as well as men could be exposed to torture, shame, and death—but when the Church wants prelates and dignitaries, then women must remember that seclusion becomes them better than publicity.

So it is with the modern Labour party in this country, which, in the first difficult days, was founded on the labour and sacrifice of its Caroline Martyrs, who in their self-devotion went, for its sake, to their early grave; but now that it is a Parliamentary party, and has grown strong and important, throws aside the

claim of women to equal political status. Will it be so in Russia? It is likely that history will repeat itself—and the Russian Revolution, if ever it becomes triumphant, will keep the yoke of political and social servitude upon the shoulders of the Russian women.

E. P. L.

HORTICULTURAL HALL MEETING.

The first of the great London meetings which are to mark the New Year was held on Thursday, January 23, in the Horticultural Hall. In spite of a dense fog a large number of women came to listen to the speeches, and over £150 was raised in collection and promises.

Members learnt with regret that Mrs. Martel, who had been advertised to speak, would be unable to be present owing to her important engagements in Ross, Herefordshire. But Mrs. Pankhurst was on the platform, none the worse, except for a slight limp, from the severe handling she had received in Newton Abbot.

The chair was taken by Miss Christabel Pankhurst, who recounted the great and rapid advance which the movement had made in the last few months; already the members of the Cabinet had found it necessary to step down from their high pedestal of disdain, and to begin to argue with the women; in a little while longer they would find that not argument, but action, and that along the lines which the women were demanding, would be required.

Mrs. Montague, from Devonshire, then moved and Viscountess Harberton seconded a vote of sympathy and congratulation with the prisoners now serving three weeks in Holloway for the cause. The vote was carried unanimously. (It may be mentioned here that they are not allowed to see friends, or to have papers, but are in the second division. They are expected to be released on the morning of February 6, when a breakfast will be given to them at the Eustace Miles' Restaurant. Tickets are 2s. each.)

Mrs. Pethick Lawrence moved the second resolution formulating the demand of the women that an Enfranchisement Bill should be included in the promises of the King's Speech.

She spoke of the pressing need of women to obtain the vote without delay; she showed up the sinister character of the attempt to curtail by law the labour of women, pointing to the fact that it was not the low-grade, poorly-paid labour of women that was being attacked, but the highly-paid work in the textile industry.

Mrs. Pankhurst, who was greeted with great applause, told of her experiences in Mid-Devon, and prophesied that the same enthusiasm which had been aroused there in favour of the Votes for Women campaign, and which had defeated the Liberal candidate, would be aroused in Herefordshire, in Worcester, in South Leeds, and in North-West Manchester. She called upon all women to take their part, by demonstration, by protest, by by-election work, and by contributing to the war chest of the Union.

In response to her appeal various women rose in different parts of the hall and gave promises of financial assistance, a total sum of £150 being forthcoming from the meeting.

Mr. Pethick Lawrence, speaking as a man to women, said it was usual for men to think they could give advice to women, and he was not going to be an exception. But his advice was that they should not be led away by men's advice, but should play their own game in their own way. The Liberal papers were always advising the Conservatives what they ought to do, and the Conservatives were always advising the Liberals; but such advice was never taken, it was only intended to catch a few wobblers. In just the same way men's criticism of women's doings would only catch those women who were half-hearted, and the real respect of thinking men would be gained by those who were uninfluenced by it.

The resolution was put and carried unanimously.

MISS FOLKARD.

Artistic Dress and Mantle Maker.

3, HILL'S PLACE, OXFORD CIRCUS, W.

Ladies' Materials made up in January and September.

THE HISTORY OF THE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT.

By SYLVIA PANKHURST. V.—*The Married Woman's Property Act.*

In the whole history of the Women's Movement there is perhaps no greater achievement on record than that of the passing of the series of Acts for the benefit of married women, which culminated in the Married Woman's Property Act of 1882.

Now let us review briefly the most outstanding features in the agitation which led up to the enactment of this great reform.

In 1855 Mrs. Norton printed and circulated amongst her friends a letter on the wrongs of married women, entitled, "A Letter to the Queen." In the same year Lord Lyndhurst pledged himself to do something to remove those wrongs. About the same time, too, Miss Barbara Leigh Smith (Mrs. Bodichon) published a pamphlet on the law of England, as it affects women, which she brought to the notice of Lord Brougham, and also submitted to the Law Amendment Society (afterwards incorporated with the Social Science Association). The Law Amendment Society took the matter up, and referred the consideration of the law of property as it affects women to the Personal Laws Committee. Having carefully inquired into the state of the English law, and also that of other European countries, and the United States, the committee submitted a report, and recommended that the Common Law rules making marriage a gift of all the woman's personal property to the husband should be repealed, and that she should be entitled to make contracts to hold her own property and earnings, and to will or dispose of them as she pleased, as if she had been unmarried. On these lines a Bill was drafted by the Society.

Meanwhile, largely through the efforts of Mrs. Bodichon, Mrs. Mary Howitt, Mrs. Bridell Fox, Miss Bessie Parkes (Madame Belloc), and Mrs. Jameson, a committee was formed in London, with Mrs. Howitt as secretary, and the first agitation for the Married Woman's Property Act was begun. On March 14, 1856, Lord Brougham presented to the House of Commons a petition in support of this reform, signed by upwards of 3,000 women. In presenting a similar petition, Sir Thomas Erskine Perry gave notice that he would move for a Parliamentary Committee to consider the subject. A petition from Liverpool, with 5,914 signatures, was presented by Mr. Ewart, and 70 other petitions were presented during the Session.

On May 20, Lord Lyndhurst raised the question of married women's property in the House of Lords, and on June 10, Sir Erskine Perry moved in the House of Commons:—"That the rules of Common Law, which give all the personal property and earnings of a woman on marriage, and all subsequently acquired property and earnings to the husband are unjust in principle and injurious in operation." The Attorney-General (Sir A. E. Cockburn) asked that the resolution, in which he cordially concurred, should not be pressed, as after consultation with the Lord Chancellor (Lord Cranworth), he hoped that during the following session the Government would be able to introduce a measure dealing with this question. He hoped that his hon. and learned friend would be satisfied with this assurance. This pledge was, however, never carried into effect. On May 15, 1857, Sir Erskine Perry, whilst expressing regret that the Ministry had not dealt with the question, asked leave to bring in a Married Women's Property Bill. The Attorney-General did not oppose the introduction of the Bill, but he appears to have receded considerably from his position of the previous year.

On July 15, the second reading of the Bill was carried by a majority of 55, the ayes being 120 and the noes 65. The Bill was "committed" for the following Wednesday, but did not come on, and was ultimately dropped. The explanation given by Sir Erskine Perry was that a Divorce Bill, which was before the House of Lords, had, in a measure, "taken the wind out of our sails," because it contained clauses which dealt with some of the more exaggerated evils under which the wives of bad husbands suffered. In Committee on this Divorce Bill, in the House of Lords, Lord St. Leonards moved the insertion of a clause to enable a wife who had been deserted for one year by her husband to apply to any Justice of the Peace for an order protecting her property and earnings. The Lord Chancellor

(Lord Cranworth), who, with the Attorney-General, was supposed to have approved the principle of Sir Erskine Perry's resolution in 1856, objected to the clause on the ground that it would not be well to take away the marital rights of the husband until a divorce had been obtained, also that repeated applications for a reversal of the order would swallow up in costs the whole of the wife's earnings. The clause was subsequently amended to provide that a wife who had been deserted by her husband for the space of one year might apply to a Justice of the Peace for an order to protect her property and lawful earning for six months, at the end of which time she must apply for a renewal of the order. This was carried by a majority of 8, 52 having voted in its favour and 44 against it.

In Committee on the Divorce Bill, in the House of Commons on August 7, 1857, Sir Erskine Perry moved that from the phrase "protection of a wife's earnings when deserted by her husband," the words "when deserted by her husband" should be omitted; the object of this was to secure a wife's earnings to her even whilst living with her husband. The Attorney-General, forgetting his promises of 1856, and even in spite of his later utterance on May 14, 1857, less than three months before this, in which he stated that he would consent "that the exclusive earnings of the wife during coverture should become her separate property," opposed this motion on the ground that it would open the door to endless confusion.

He also objected to the clause which had been sent down from the House of Lords, and framed a new one, which was adopted on August 2, and became part of the Divorce Law of 1857. This clause provided that a wife, deserted by her husband, might obtain from a Police Magistrate, or from the Justices in Petty Sessions, an order to protect her earnings and property, acquired after the beginning of the desertion, against her husband and his creditors, and restored her to her status as an unmarried woman with regard to her rights of property and contract, and of suing and being sued. In any civil proceeding she could deal with the property acquired during the desertion as she pleased during her life, and dispose of it by will, whilst, if she died without making a will, the property would go to her heirs and not to her husband.

She did not, however, recover any right to any property which had passed from her to her husband before the desertion and the order, such as it was, was always liable to be set aside on the application of her husband. Even this small concession was reluctantly granted by the Legislature, and was, as it were, wrung from them in order to silence the larger demands of more earnest and far-seeing reformers.

For many years nothing further was done to improve the English law, but in 1861 the Scottish Conjugal Rights Act was passed. This enabled a deserted wife to obtain protection for property earned or acquired by her after the desertion, and gave her the right, whilst living with her husband, to claim some provision for herself out of property coming to her during the marriage, by inheritance, gift, or otherwise, provided the husband's creditors had not attached it, or the husband himself reduced it into possession.

In 1867 Mrs. Josephine Butler, Miss Jessie Boucherett, Mrs. Gloyne, and Miss Wolstenholme (Mrs. Elmy) prepared a memorial, which was signed by many distinguished men and women, and presented to the council of the Social Science Association. The memorial pointed out the injustice of the law of England and Ireland with regard to the property, earnings, and maintenance of married women, and asked the council to take steps to bring the question before Parliament and the country, in order to secure an amendment in the law. The committee of the jurisprudence department of the society inquired into the question in response to the memorial, with the result that the council recommended the immediate introduction into Parliament of a Bill for the amendment of the law relating to the property of married women.

A Bill of this kind was therefore drafted, and introduced into the House of Commons on April 21, 1868, by Mr. Shaw Lefevre, the names of Mr. Russell Gurney and John Stuart Mill also appearing on the back of the Bill.

A Preliminary Committee was immediately formed, and in

April, 1868, the Married Women's Property Committee was constituted, with Miss Wolstenholme as secretary and Miss Becker as treasurer of the executive. Two committees were also formed in Ireland and one in Birmingham. Twenty-nine petitions, with 33,000 signatures, were presented to the House of Commons, and the question of Married Women's Property was further discussed by the Social Science Association at their conference in Birmingham in October, 1868.

The Bill came on for second reading on June 10, 1868, and was supported by John Stuart Mill, Mr. Lowe (Lord Sherbrooke), and Mr. Jacob Bright. In the division which followed the numbers were equal, 123 members voting on each side, whereupon the Speaker followed the usual precedent and gave his casting vote in support of the Bill. It should be noted here that the Opposition had grown considerably since Sir Erskine Perry's Bill, which, in 1857, was carried by a majority of 55, ayes being 120 and noes 65. The Bill was next referred to a Select Committee, which, having taken important evidence, made a report to the House on July 7, and expressed the unanimous opinion that a change in the law should be made with regard both to the property and earnings of married women.

Following the Session of 1868 came a General Election, and the return of a Liberal Government, with Mr. Gladstone as Prime Minister.

In 1869 Mr. Russell Gurney introduced the Married Women's Property Bill. It passed the second reading on April 14, without a division.

The Bill was again referred to a Select Committee, which cut down the significant preamble and added an amendment restricting the power of a married woman to dispose of her real estate during her lifetime except with her husband's consent. The Committee reported the amended Bill to the House on May 13. Mr. Raikes then put down notice of opposition, and succeeded in delaying the third reading of the Bill until July 21, when it was carried by 131 votes to 33. Lord Penzance presented the Bill in the House of Lords, where the second reading was carried without a division, but the Session was already drawing to a close, and the Bill was dropped without proceeding further.

During the Session 113 petitions, with 42,674 signatures, were presented to the House of Commons, and 70 petitions, with 30,000 signatures, to the House of Lords. Since the formation of the committee in 1868, 35,000 pamphlets had up to this time been circulated. These included reprints from the speeches made on the question in Parliament, and papers by Frances Power Cobbe, Harriet Martineau, W. J. Fox, M.P. (Publicola), and others.

In 1870 Mr. Russell Gurney again brought in his Bill, and a rival measure was introduced by Mr. Raikes. The object of this was to preserve the rule of Common Law, vesting a wife's property in her husband, but to mitigate a few of its worst abuses by instituting a system of interference with the right of both husband and wife to dispose of their property, which could only have succeeded in supplying cases for the law courts. It was feared that Mr. Raikes' Bill might be carried through the co-operation of those who felt that some change was necessary, and yet were not prepared to give married women absolute justice with those who desired the law to remain unchanged, yet would accept the measure of Mr. Raikes' as being practically inoperative.

A vigorous propaganda was therefore carried on in support of Mr. Russell Gurney's Bill, and in opposition to that of Mr. Raikes', and during the Session 250 petitions, with 46,199 signatures, were presented with this object.

Both Bills came on for second reading on May 18. Mr. Raikes' Bill was rejected by 208 votes to 46, whilst Mr. Russell Gurney's was agreed to without a division. It passed successfully through Committee, and third reading on May 24, and 31.

On June 21, Lord Cairns moved the second reading of the Bill in the House of Lords. It met with great opposition from the legal Peers, of whom Lord Romilly and Lord Cairns himself were the only supporters. Though the Bill was read a second time without a division, it was severely mutilated in Committee, the only part left intact being the two formal clauses, which gave the short title to the Bill.

When the text of the Bill, as amended by the Select Committee of the House of Lords, became known the Married Women's Property Committee petitioned the House of Lords,

pointing out its various grave defects. They were successful in securing several minor improvements, and in getting struck out the clause which made the separate estate of the wife liable for debts contracted for household necessities when acting as her husband's agent.

The Bill passed through Committee in the House of Lords, on July 18, and was read a third time on July 22. On August 3 the Lords' amendments were agreed to in the House of Commons under protest, and on the motion of the Attorney-General for Ireland, the Act was made also to apply to Ireland. It received the Royal Assent on August 9, 1870, and at once came into operation.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS.

Up to the End of February (as far as at present arranged).

Jan. 30 (Thurs.)	Maidstone, Corn Exchange	Miss Christabel Pankhurst, Mrs. Baldock	..
	Helensburgh, N.B., Victoria Hall	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss G. Paterson, Mrs. Hunter, Miss Helen Fraser	4 p.m.
	Hull, Oddfellows' Hall	Miss Mary Gawthorpe	..
	London, 4, Clements Inn	"At Home"	8 p.m.
	Manchester, W.S.P.U. Offices	Miss A. Kenney	7.30 p.m.
Jan. 31 (Fri.)	Birmingham, Town Hall	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, Miss Nell Kenney, Miss Una Dugdale	8 p.m.
	Brighouse, Pearson's Café	Miss A. Kenney, Miss A. Pankhurst	7.30 p.m.
Feb. 1 (Sat.)	Glasgow, "At Home," 141, Bath-street	Miss H. Fraser, Mrs. Hunter, Miss G. Paterson	4-6 p.m.
	Rochdale Offices	Miss A. Kenney, Miss A. Pankhurst	4 p.m.
	Rochdale Public Meeting	Miss A. Pankhurst	7.30 p.m.
	Ramsbottom, I.L.P.	Miss A. Kenney	4.30 p.m.
Feb. 2 (Sun.)	Wishaw, P.S.A.	Miss Helen Fraser	..
Feb. 3 (Mon.)	London, Portman Rooms, "At Home"	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence	4 p.m.
	Bowes Park	Miss Christabel Pankhurst	3 p.m.
	Glasgow, 141, Bath-street	Miss H. Fraser	..
	Bury, Cottage Meeting	Miss A. Kenney	7.30 p.m.
Feb. 4 (Tues.)	Chiswick Town Hall	Miss Macaulay	7 p.m.
	East Finchley, 66, Durham-street	Miss Christabel Pankhurst	3.30 p.m.
Feb. 5	Wood Green, Unity Hall, "At Home"	Mrs. Rowe	7 p.m.
	Bowes Park, public "At Home"	Miss Isabel Seymour	8 p.m.
	Hammersmith, 2, The Broadway	Miss Naylor	8 p.m.
	London, Breakfast, Eustace Miles' Restaurant	To welcome the released prisoners	9.15 a.m.
Feb. 6 (Thurs.)	Strand, 3, Adelphi-terrace, Drawing-room Meeting	Miss Christabel Pankhurst	3 p.m.
	Reading, Public Hall	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, Miss Naylor	8 p.m.
	London, "At Home," 4, Clements Inn	..	8 p.m.
Feb. 7	S. Kensington	Miss Christabel Pankhurst	5 p.m.
Feb. 8 (Sat.)	Glasgow, At Home, 141, Bath-street	Miss H. Fraser	4 p.m.
Feb. 10 (Mon.)	London, Portman Rooms, At Home	Mrs. Pankhurst, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence	4 p.m.
	Lewisham, Debate	Miss Macaulay	..
	Glasgow, 141, Bath-street	Miss H. Fraser	8 p.m.
Feb. 11 (Tues.)	London, Women's Parliament, Caxton Hall	Chairman: Mrs. Pankhurst	3 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Feb. 12 (Wed.)	London, Women's Parliament, Caxton Hall	..	..
Feb. 13 (Thurs.)	London, Women's Parliament, Caxton Hall	..	..
Feb. 15	Newmilns	Miss H. Fraser	..
Feb. 16	Darvel, P.S.A.	Miss H. Fraser	..
Feb. 17 (Mon.)	London, Portman Rooms, "At Home"	Miss Christabel Pankhurst	4-6 p.m.
	Walthamstow, Trinity Literary and Debating Society.	Miss Isabel Seymour	..
	Motherwell, Town Hall	Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Helen Fraser	8 p.m.
	Rochdale Offices	Miss Ida Payne	3 p.m.
Feb. 18 (Tues.)	Bournemouth, The Westbourne Literary and Debating Society	Miss E. Sharp	8 p.m.
	Dunbarton	Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Fraser	..
Feb. 19 (Wed.)	Glasgow, Athenæum Hall	Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Fraser	..
Feb. 20 (Thurs.)	London, 4, Clements Inn, "At Home"	Miss Christabel Pankhurst	8 p.m.
	Kilmarnock	Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Fraser	..
	Peckham, School Room, Asylum road	Miss H. Lightman	8.30 p.m.
	Bowes Park, Public Meeting	Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Fraser	8 p.m.
Feb. 21 (Fri.)	Hamilton	..	..
Feb. 22	Glasgow, "At Home," 141, Bath Street	Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss H. Fraser	..
Feb. 24 (Mon.)	London, Portman Rooms, At Home	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Christabel Pankhurst	4-6 p.m.
Feb. 25 (Tues.)	Norwood	Dr. Jones	..
Feb. 26 (Wed.)	Forest Gate, Earlham-road	Miss Christabel Pankhurst	8 p.m.
Feb. 27 (Thurs.)	London, 4, Clements Inn	At Home	8 p.m.

Important Future Events.

Mar. 3	Portman Rooms, Lecture	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence	8.30 p.m.
Mar. 10	Portman Rooms, Lecture	Dr. Garrett Anderson	8.30 p.m.
Mar. 19	Royal Albert Hall	Mrs. Pankhurst, and others	8 p.m.
Mar. 24	Portman Rooms, Lecture	Mrs. Pankhurst	8.30 p.m.
Mar. 31	Portman Rooms, Lecture	Miss Eliz. Robins	8.30 p.m.
April 7	Portman Rooms, Lecture	Miss C. Pankhurst	..
June 2	Hyde Park Demonstration	All the Leaders	3 p.m.

For Programme of Election Meetings, see page 67.

FEELING IN LANCASHIRE AND YORKSHIRE.

The meetings of the last three weeks in Lancashire and Yorkshire towns have been notable for the keen enthusiasm of the women.

Our meetings, besides being a great success, have covered the expenses by taking up collections. The meetings in the Colne Valley were magnificent. From what I have seen of the enthusiasm of the women, I am sure of this, that if they were as free as the men, we should have, not hundreds, but thousands of women ready to suffer imprisonment for Political Liberty.

I have often thought, where would the Chartists who were demanding Political Liberty have been if the women of those days had placed obstacles in the way of men taking their part in the struggle. Yet how keenly the women must have suffered when the men were imprisoned, not for weeks, but for years, for asking the right to vote. But the women stood by the men and suffered with the men for the same Liberty which we women are asking to be granted us to-day.

Think of all the strikes. Who is it, many, many times, who stands out the longest against injustice and wrong? Last year, when the cotton factory workers asked for an increase of 5 per cent., we were told in our papers that the women of Lancashire showed greater enthusiasm and determination than the men. They said the women turned up in greater numbers, and were roused up at the knowledge of injustice being practised on them. It is said the women cheered every point that was made in the favour of the workers, while the men looked sullen and dogged about it all.

Men sometimes say women don't want the vote, that women are not interested in politics, or that women need educating. How strange all these arguments seem after visiting Colne Valley and Rossendale Valley. For I found there the men's political meetings almost packed with women, women who have had only two short years of direct political education, while the men have had forty.

One trembles sometimes as one realises the great responsibility we have taken on our shoulders to free the women. But we shall do it. Our souls are aflame with this woman's cause, our hearts are full with the hopes of the future, our faith is in ourselves and our movement. We love the land we live in, we love its people, and we want to preserve and protect the race. With this faith, courage, and love we women will live in deeds, not words. By our works we shall be judged.

ANNIE KENNEY.

SCOTTISH NOTES.

During the last fortnight in January we have had Miss Christabel Pankhurst in Aberdeen, where she had two very successful meetings. The one held in the Music Hall was specially noteworthy. The chairwoman was Mrs. Milne, of Woodside, and the resolution was moved by Mrs. Black, President of the Aberdeen Women's Liberal Association, and seconded by Mrs. Glegg, Women's Unionist Association, Lady Ramsay moving the vote of thanks. An excellent report of the meeting and verbatim report of Miss Pankhurst's speech appeared in the *Free Press*.

On Saturday, January 25, at our weekly "At Home," we had Mrs. Pethick Lawrence as speaker, and had an enthusiastic and brilliant speech, and a very successful and crowded meeting.

Mrs. Pethick Lawrence spoke in Aberdeen on Sunday, January 19, and in Glasgow on Wednesday, January 22, when Mrs. John Hunter's drawing-room meeting was held in the afternoon, and the Rutherglen meeting in the evening.

On Thursday, January 30, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Eunice Murray, and I speak at Helensburgh, with Mrs. Hunter in the chair.

On Thursday evening I spoke at the Dumbarton Union's meeting, and spent two days this week in Motherwell, organising our future meeting there.

I wish all our West of Scotland members to note our week's campaign in February, beginning 17th, when we have meetings in Athenæum Hall, Glasgow (February 19), Motherwell (17th), Hamilton, Kilmarnock, Hillhead, Edinburgh, and to aid us with the sale of tickets, literature selling, &c.

We wish again to say how pleased we are to see members and friends at our weekly "At Homes," and to have the names of those who can help us by giving voluntary work.

HELEN FRASER.

LONDON AND THE PROVINCES.

Brixton and Streatham W.S.P.U.—On the evening of Wednesday, January 22, a meeting for women was held at Raleigh Hall, Brixton. The Chairman (Mrs. Freke), in opening the meeting, alluded to the absence of Miss McArthur and Mrs. Drummond, who were to have been present, but who were aiding the cause by suffering imprisonment instead. After referring to the Women's Parliament, to be held at Caxton Hall on February 11th, 12th, and 13th, she called on Mrs. Tanner to address the audience and move the resolution—"That this meeting demands the franchise for women on the same terms as it is, or may be, granted to men."

Before moving the resolution, Mrs. Tanner drew attention to the severity of the sentence passed on Miss McArthur (convicted of a first offence), Mrs. Drummond, and the other three Suffragettes. She characterised our tactics as "absurdly mild" in comparison with the violence men used to gain the vote; showed how little 50 years of constitutional methods had achieved; even our opponents no longer say that women are unfitted to enter politics, but that politics are unfit for women. After referring to the inconsistency of the opposition as particularly exemplified in the recent gathering at the rooms of the Brixton Liberal Association, the speaker put the resolution before the meeting, and spoke at some length on the need of abolishing sex control.

Miss Lambert seconded the resolution, emphasising the benefits that had resulted in other countries. Miss Lightman spoke in support of the resolution, pointing out the justice of the demand; women should not suffer for the accident of birth; Government, acting as a father, should realise that woman, during the last 40 years, had proved her fitness for the franchise. At the close of the meeting the resolution was carried unanimously. A further recommendation—"that the resolution be placed before the Cabinet with a request that it be incorporated in the King's Speech," was carried without dissent.

Chelsea W.S.P.U.—The last few weeks of hard work by members, and the valuable assistance given by Mrs. Monck-Mason, Miss Stratton, and Miss Lillian Sheppard resulted in a splendid meeting, on Wednesday, in the Town Hall. Mrs. Eates presided. Mrs. Pankhurst, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, and Miss Evelyn Sharp addressed the meeting. The resolution was put and carried unanimously "that this meeting expresses its sympathy with, and admiration for, the brave women now undergoing imprisonment for publicly protesting against the tyranny of taxation without representation, and demands that the Liberal Government shall this session put Liberal principles into practice and enfranchise the qualified women of the country."

The audience, touched by the eloquence of the speeches, and convinced of the justice of the demand, responded liberally.

After paying our expenses, and keeping £2 in hand, we are both proud and glad to be able to give to the N.W.S.P.U. the nice little sum of £178, in money and promise cards.

Thanks are due to Kensington for the valuable advice given to me on how to organise a meeting, advice which I followed in every detail.

F. E. HAIG, Hon. Sec.

Hammersmith W.S.P.U.—Nine members and friends have volunteered to take part in collecting at the various busy railway stations in Hammersmith and Shepherd's Bush during the week of self-denial in February. It will need 15 to take charge of all the collecting boxes throughout the week if no one is to be on duty for more than three hours. We ask for more names to be given in speedily, as they must be sent in, with the application for permission to collect, to Scotland Yard, and we are in special need of those who can take morning or afternoon duty.

I think an American Sewing-Bee might be productive of good results in some neighbourhoods for the making of things that are definitely wanted, and that would be ordered from the Bee instead of being bought in shops.

FRANCIS E. ROWE.

Kensington W.S.P.U.—On Tuesday, January 21, a meeting for women only was held in the Studio, 2, Campden Hill-square, by kind permission of the Misses Brackenbury. About 200 women were present. Miss Evelyn Sharp took the chair, and the first speaker was Miss Macaulay, who dealt with "Cabinet Ministers' Meetings." She was followed by Mrs. Eates, who described the "By-Election Policy," and gave her experiences at Hull. The principal speech was made by Mrs.

Pankhurst, who was received with great enthusiasm. She gave a most stirring account of the Mid-Devon Election, and appealed to those present for money and personal services for the pending by-elections. At the conclusion of her speech Miss May Sinclair rose and promised to give £10 towards this work. Another lady quickly followed her example, and yet another announced that she would give £1 if four others would promise the same amount. This appeal was speedily responded to, and in all about £30 was promised. As a result of this meeting three members of the Kensington Union offered themselves for by-election work, and started for Herefordshire on Monday.

Earl's Court Stall.

The Kensington W.S.P.U. have undertaken to manage the "Votes for Women" stall at the Dress Exhibition at Earl's Court. The exhibition is open for a fortnight from January 25 to February 8, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. As the visitors to the exhibition are chiefly women, the stall affords us a splendid opportunity of getting into touch with them.

Plans for Self-Denial Week.

(1) A special envelope for contributions is being prepared, and is to be left at the house of every sympathiser of the movement in Kensington, together with an appeal for funds early in self-denial week. Later in the week these envelopes will be called for, and it is hoped they will contain substantial donations to the funds.

(2) We have applied to the Commissioner of Police for permission to have collecting boxes at the four railway stations in our district. If this permission is granted, we intend to have an "Artists' Station," at which the Misses Brackenbury, Miss Janet Stratton, and Miss Florence White will collect; a "Novelists' Station," at which Miss Violet Hunt, Miss May Sinclair, and Miss Evelyn Sharp will collect; and a "High School Station," at which Miss Conolan, Miss Bidwell, and two others will collect.

(3) We hope to have two or three drawing-room meetings in the week, and to make special collections.

(4) One of our members will try to arrange a concert to help the funds.

(5) Some members will have Marmalade "Bees," and hope to find a ready sale for "Votes for Women" marmalade.

(6) Some jewellery has been offered us for sale to help the funds.

(7) We shall endeavour to obtain permission to speak at the local theatres during the intervals.

LOUISA EATES.

Manchester W.S.P.U.—On January 8 the members of the Manchester W.S.P.U. held a meeting at 5, Victoria-street, Mrs. Duncan in the chair. The speakers were Miss Annie Kenney, Miss Williamson, and Mr. Brooks. Miss Kenney expressed her belief in the speedy enfranchisement of women, and spoke of the coming Women's Parliament in London in February. Mrs. Robinson proposed a resolution demanding the mention of Woman's Suffrage in the King's Speech, and Miss Withrington seconded it. This closed a most enthusiastic meeting.

On January 21, the Free Trade League had a mass meeting in the Free Trade Hall. On Mr. Churchill rising to second the resolution proposed by Mr. Elliot, some of our workers from Preston, Huddersfield, Leeds, and Manchester succeeded in interrupting the first part of the meeting.

On January 30, Miss Annie Kenney will give an address at 116, Portland-street, on the coming Parliament for Women.

F. ANNIE COLLIER.

Preston W.S.P.U.—Our members have taken up the scheme for self-denial week with enthusiasm, and some of them propose that in order to win sympathisers and gain funds, members should hold "At Homes" in each or any of their homes. At these friendly gatherings tea should be provided, and music and other entertainment arranged for, and a charge of 6d. per head made, which should go to the funds of the W.S.P.U. Mrs. Horn, 74, Wolseley-road, Preston, has consented to act as special secretary for the various schemes for raising funds during Self-Denial week.

Miss Idon Payne, the leading actress of the Playgoers' Theatre Company, who is an ardent Suffragist, will visit Preston on February 17, and has consented to give an address on the "Dramatic Revival of To-Day" at our offices on that date.

Permission has been given by Miss Elizabeth Robins and Mr. Granville Barker for one act from Miss Robins' play "Votes for Women," to be given by some of our members and friends towards the end of March.

E. RIGBY.

Yorkshire Report.

On Monday, 20th, a very successful "At Home" was held at the house of Mrs. Lloyd, 8, Claremont-place, Sheffield. The next will be on Tuesday, February 4, at 4 p.m.

In the evening of the same day the Huddersfield W.S.P.U. organised a social evening, which was well attended. I spoke to the I.L.P. women of Golcar on Tuesday night, and I hope that we shall have at least one representative from there at the Women's Parliament. I met the Leeds members on Wednesday, at a meeting where Mrs. Bellingham, of 32, Longroyd-grove, Leeds, was appointed secretary in place of Miss Rhys Davids. The Leeds members intend to work in the by-election, and will meet Miss Sidley at an "At Home" on Wednesday evening, 29th, to discuss plans.

On Friday evening Miss Annie Kenney and I spoke at an "At Home" in Bradford. There were a great many strangers present, and we made several new members. We have four delegates for the Women's Parliament from Bradford.

Next week there will be meetings in Hebden Bridge, Elland, Leeds, and Brighouse.

ADELA PANKHURST.

Mrs. Wilmshurst and Mrs. Edwin Sykes, of Huddersfield, held drawing room meetings on January 13 and 24, at which Miss Kilburn, of Meltham, read a paper on "Women's Suffrage." It was listened to with interest, and various opinions were freely expressed by ladies to whom the subject was new. A collection was taken in aid of the funds of the N.W.S.P.U.

LIBERAL WOMEN AT QUEEN'S HALL.

DEAR SIR,—As no Liberal paper appears to have reported what actually happened at the meeting of the Women's Liberal Federation at Queen's Hall on January 24, I think if you can find space in your paper, many readers and members of the N.W.S.P.U. will be interested to know what actually happened.

The hall was full, and the audience listened with scant applause to the chairwoman (Mrs. Eva McLaren) and the first speakers, who still trusted in the good intentions of the Liberal Government. No enthusiasm was aroused until Miss Florence Balgarnie said the Government *must* enfranchise women, and that women ought no longer to be patient. Then the applause was loud and long; so long, indeed, that Miss Balgarnie and several others on the platform looked round to see if some unexpected, but very popular person had just arrived. But no, it was the sentiment that that huge meeting of Liberal women was applauding. Only once again was so much enthusiasm shown—and that time was when Mrs. Booth, of Lancashire, while speaking of the disabilities under which women at present live, referred to "my dear Miss Pankhurst"; then once again the applause was loud and long; handkerchiefs were waved, and shouts of "Bravo!" were to be heard.

It was indeed a triumph for our dear Miss Pankhurst and those other leaders of the W.S.P.U. who have suffered contumely, ridicule, and abuse, but whom we have learnt to trust, honour, and love.

NELLIE E. SMITH.

EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN.

DEAR EDITORS,—On receiving the workshop return of employment form for 1907, from the Home Office I find the following statement:—

"Voluntary Particulars.

"For the purpose of inquiry into the subject of the industrial employment of women before and after childbirth, the Secretary of State is desirous of obtaining particulars of the number of married women employed, and he will be glad if occupiers will furnish statistics indicated below:—

"Of the — females over 18 employed in the works — are unmarried, — are married with husbands living, and — are widows."

I shall certainly not volunteer such particulars, but state instead, "When women are directly represented, so that they can give expression to their opinions and wishes regarding curtailment of employment, &c., I will give voluntary particulars, but consider it beside my duty to do so now."

Hoping every suffragette employing labour will do likewise.

Yours fraternally,

GERTRUDE BALLAM.

CAN Suffragist recommend BED-SITTING ROOM, near Law Courts, to Woman Suffragist. Sundays to Tuesday.—Terms to Hill Side, Lubbock-road, Chislehurst.

PRESS EXTRACTS.

The "Nottingham Guardian," on January 10, published the following important editorial comment on Mr. Haldane's recent speech:—

We trust that Mr. Haldane's declaration in favour of women's suffrage means that the present Government is about to take the matter in hand, and concede the franchise to women. It is time that this were done, and there is no reason why the present Government should not do it. Some people, we know, think that most women will vote on the Conservative side, and there are others who think that the opposite of this will be the case. The probability is that women are divided in politics, in much the same way as men, and that the admission of women to the franchise will make little difference to the balance of parties. But, however this may be, the matter ought not to be judged in a party spirit. The claim of women to the franchise is altogether superior to any mere party interest, and the welfare of the nation demands that the claims of women should be conceded.

Prophecy Fulfilled.

The Newton Abbot special correspondent to the "Manchester Guardian," in commenting upon the causes of the "surprising Unionist victory," significantly remarked:—

Mrs. Pankhurst, as I stated the other day, had anticipated a considerable reduction in Mr. Buxton's majority, partly owing to Labour abstentions and partly to abstentions due to sympathy with the cause of women's suffrage. She put her prophecy in more emphatic terms than I cared at the time to reproduce—for in elections one has to be constantly damping down the prophetic fires, lest the prophet should afterwards be made to look foolish—but, bold as her prediction was, the event has outdone it. She counted merely on abstentions, whereas there have been actual marchings over to the enemy. Possibly a good many voters promised to abstain, and on polling-day found the excitement so infectious that they felt bound to vote for somebody, so made the worst of it by voting on the other side. I think there can be no doubt that the Suffragists did influence voters. Their activity, the interest shown in their meetings, the success of their persuasive methods in enlisting popular sympathy, the large number of working women who acted with them as volunteers—these were features of the election which, although strangely ignored by most of the newspapers, must have struck most visitors to the constituency.

Climbing Down.

The "North Wales Chronicle" of January 18, in a leading article entitled "Hesitation Before Capitulation," remarked:—"Tis dogged as does it." Evidently the resistance of the Government to the enfranchisement of women is breaking down under the dogged persistency of the handful of women who, in season and out of season, in spite of buffetings, chuckings-out, scoldings, and even imprisonment, raise their shrill battle-cry of "Votes for Women" wherever a Minister is found addressing his fellow-countrymen. Banged, barred, and bolted doors do not keep them out of ticket meetings. They pervade the by-elections with their supplications to the electors to vote against the Government. They threaten more desperate attacks on the serenity of Parliament during this leap year, when ladies are by use and custom entitled to make the first advances. Weakened as the Government is on this, as on other questions, it is not surprising that it is wavering in resistance.

Sounding the Liberal M.P.'s.

The "Western Morning News," in its issue of January 22, contains the following paragraph:—

The shrewd calculation of the Suffragettes that Radicals may be terrorised into granting them the franchise has already been justified. I do not mean that votes for women will figure in the King's Speech, but prominent Liberals are beginning to sound their followers as to what they would say to a Franchise Bill. Radical organisers are frightened at the vigorous propaganda which the ladies have conducted, and they know that they suffer greatly in prestige through sending to prison the demonstrators. A graceful retreat would be effected with alacrity if the Government could see their way out.

There have also been a number of cartoons in papers all over the country, which limit of space forbids us to reproduce here.

Progressive Glasgow.

The Glasgow Corporation has decided by a majority of nearly four to one to petition Parliament in favour of votes for women. The suggestion was submitted to the Council by the Glasgow District of the Independent Labour Party. Two ladies moved that the communication lie on the table. Mr. Robert Graham moved that the Corporation petition Parliament as desired. Several members rose to second the amendment, which, on a division, was carried by 41 votes to 11.—"Manchester Guardian."

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £20,000 FUND.

December 30 to January 27.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	4,153	4	5½	Miss M. R. Margesson	1	0	0
Miss B. E. Hunt	0	2	0	Miss Frances C. Oakley	1	0	0
Mrs. Pollock	1	0	0	Walker	5	0	0
Miss Benett	0	2	6	Mrs. Alice M. Shillington	2	0	0
Miss Grimme	0	1	0	Miss S. Shillington, M.A.	2	0	0
Miss Annie W. Lance	0	5	0	Miss Deborah Webb	2	0	0
Miss C. H. Howse	0	5	0	Miss Agnes Kelly	0	5	0
Miss Leila M. Rendel	1	1	0	Mrs. J. Cohen	50	0	0
Miss Cora Hodges	0	8	0	Mrs. Alice S. May	1	1	0
E. Bell, Esq.	5	0	0	Miss Harriet K. Kerr	1	1	0
Mrs. R. A. Billingham	5	0	0	Miss Annie Williams	0	2	6
Miss A. E. Billingham	1	0	0	Miss Blanche A. Smith	1	0	0
Miss Johanne Nielson	1	0	0	Mrs. Lightman	0	10	0
Miss Bertha Ryland	1	0	0	Miss Lucy Williams	0	5	0
Miss Edith M. Hughesdon	1	0	0	Miss F. E. Milner	0	5	0
Mrs. Edith Rigby	0	5	0	Mrs. Stevens	0	5	0
Mrs. Lamb	0	5	0	Miss R. M. Billingham	0	11	0
Mrs. G. Woods	0	5	0	Miss H. E. Sheppard	5	0	0
Anonymous	0	12	8	Miss Foley	0	10	0
Mrs. Kathleen S. Tanner	0	5	0	Miss Derling Curtois	0	5	0
Miss Strickland	0	1	0	Mrs. M. A. Tordoff	1	0	0
Miss New	1	1	0	Miss Alice Heale	2	2	0
Mrs. Winifred Stark	2	0	0	Miss Douglas	1	0	0
Mrs. Mary Blathwayt	1	0	0	Miss V. M. Alcock	0	5	0
Miss Jopling Rowe	0	5	0	Miss Katherine S. Martig	3	1	0
Mrs. Bedford Fenwick	10	0	0	Basil Tozer, Esq.	0	10	0
Miss Kennedy	0	10	0	Anonymous	10	0	0
Anonymous Hospitality	1	10	0	Colonel Linley Blathwayt,			
Mrs. Cohen	1	1	0	donation	1	1	0
Miss Kate Mitchell	0	5	0	Mrs. Blathwayt	1	1	0
Miss Eliz. MacRae	2	10	0	Kensington meeting	19	0	0
Charles J. S. Harper, Esq.	2	2	0	Kensington for speakers'			
Mrs. Marianne Masters	0	5	0	expenses	0	6	0
Miss Mary Foster	0	10	0	Miss Edith Colley	1	0	0
Frau Marie Streiff	0	10	0	Miss Ellen M. Lloyd	1	0	0
Huddersfield W.S.P.U.	1	10	0	Miss E. Naylor	5	0	0
Hampstead Local W.S.P.U.	8	10	9	Mrs. Wilmhurst's drawing-			
Miss Shuttleworth Boden	20	0	0	room meeting	0	5	0
Sir Alfred Turner	1	1	0				
Mrs. Morton	0	2	6				
Mrs. Annie Darley	0	5	0				
Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Pethick							
Lawrence (Instalment of							
promise)	200	0	0				
Guarantee weekly	0	8	9				
Mrs. H. Scurfield	1	0	0				
Miss Marion Berry	0	10	0				
Hammersmith Local Union	1	0	0				
Dr. and Mrs. Ramsbottom	2	0	0				
Miss Agnes Champ	1	0	0				
Miss M. G. Turner	0	17	0				
Anon	0	0	2				
Mrs. Alice Gomme	2	2	0				
Miss Ellen M. Robin	0	1	8				
Meltham profit	1	3	6				
Mrs. May Williams	2	0	0				
Viscountess Harberton	2	0	0				
Miss B. Anderson	0	5	0				
Manchester Zion Associa-							
tion	0	5	3				
Miss C. Archer	1	0	0				
Mrs. and Miss Page	0	2	0				
Miss Aeta Lamb	1	0	0				
Miss Jessie C. Methven	5	5	0				
The Misses Ellen and M.							
Townley	5	5	0				
Romford Parliament	0	10	6				
Miss Julia M. Wiltshire	0	2	0				
Mrs. Frances E. Rowe	2	10	0				
Mrs. G. M. Smith	0	5	0				
Mrs. S. A. Turle	20	0	0				
Miss M. Postlethwaite	0	4	0				
Anonymous	2	2	0				
Mrs. Sheriff	1	0	0				
Sympathiser, Ledbury	0	2	0				
Miss Massey	1	0	0				
Miss Louisa Corben	0	5	0				
Mrs. Gregory Nichol森	1	1	0				
Miss Edith Middleton	1	0	0				
Mrs. Lloyd Thomas	0	5	0				
Mrs. F. G. Oldham	1	0	0				
Sympathisers from Hove	1	2	0				
Alderman Boycott	1	0	0				
Miss E. W. Davison	0	5	0				
Miss Florence Chiveriel	0	10	0				
Miss C. F. E. Spurgeon	0	10	0				
Mrs. Montague	1	0	0				
Mrs. E. Slater	0	5	0				
W. Frith Bryden, Esq.	0	5	0				
Miss Mary Maud	1	1	0				
Miss H. R. Kerr	0	10	6				
Kensington Local W.S.P.U.	3	3	0				
W. Cordwint, Esq.	0	10	6				
Guarantee weekly	0	8	11				
Mrs. Burgess	1	1	0				
Mrs. Whiteford	0	1	0				
Mrs. Parsons	0	2	6				
Miss Beadon	0	10	0				
Mrs. G. C. Carter	1	0	0				
Miss Marquardt	1	0	0				
Miss Juliette Heale	0	10	0				
Mrs. E. P. Lawrell	1	0	0				
Miss A. Potter	0	10	0				
Miss E. G. Gamble	1	1	0				
Mrs. E. B. S. Wilkinson	0	1	8				
Miss Esther Bayley	0	5	0				
Miss Beryl Reeves	1	0	0				
Miss Elsie Grant	1	0	0				
From a Friend	1	0	0				
"Chudleigh"	0	3	0				
Miss Blinkiron	0	3	0				
Mrs. B. Brewster	4	4	0				
Mrs. Marianne Masters	0	10	0				
Miss M. R. Margesson	1	0	0				
Miss Frances C. Oakley	1	0	0				
Walker	5	0	0				
Mrs. Alice M. Shillington	2	0	0				
Miss S. Shillington, M.A.	2	0	0				
Miss Deborah Webb	2	0	0				
Miss Agnes Kelly	0	5	0				
Mrs. J. Cohen	50	0	0				
Mrs. Alice S. May	1	1	0				
Miss Harriet K. Kerr	1	1	0				
Miss Annie Williams	0	2	6				
Miss Blanche A. Smith	1	0	0				
Mrs. Lightman	0	10	0				
Miss Lucy Williams	0	5	0				
Miss F. E. Milner	0	5	0				
Mrs. Stevens	0	5	0				
Miss R. M. Billingham	0	11	0				
Miss H. E. Sheppard	5	0	0				
Miss Foley	0	10	0				
Miss Derling Curtois	0	5	0				
Mrs. M. A. Tordoff	1	0	0				
Miss Alice Heale	2	2	0				
Miss Douglas	1	0	0				
Miss V. M. Alcock	0	5	0				
Miss Katherine S. Martig	3	1	0				
Basil Tozer, Esq.	0	10	0				
Anonymous	10	0	0				
Colonel Linley Blathwayt,							
donation	1	1	0				
Mrs. Blathwayt	1	1	0				
Kensington meeting	19	0	0				
Kensington for speakers'							
expenses	0	6	0				
Miss Edith Colley	1	0	0				
Miss Ellen M. Lloyd	1	0	0				
Miss E. Naylor	5	0	0				
Mrs. Wilmhurst's drawing-							
room meeting	0	5	0				
Members' Pledge Fees.							
Miss A. Jenks	0	1	0				
Miss Gertrude Ballam	0	1	0				
Miss Ada S. Beck	0	1	0				
Mrs. E. Tegan Harris	0	1	0				
Mrs. A. Billingham	0	1	0				
Miss Elizabeth Stirling	0	1	0				
Miss Annie Tuson	0	1	0				
Mrs. F. Horn	0	1	0				
Mrs. Elizabeth E. Hesmond-							
halgh	0	1	0				
Miss Edith M. Hughesdon	0	1	0				
Miss Shannon	0	1	0				
Mrs. Edith Rigby	0	1	0				
Miss Agnes M. Leonard	0	1	0				
Miss Mary Hoyle	0	1	0				
Dr. Mary W. Durno	0	1	0				
Mrs. Matilde Howarth	0	1	0				
Mrs. A. Williams	0	1	0				
Mrs. Amelia Haigh	0	1	0				
Mrs. Shakeshaft	0	1	0				
Mrs. Wadsworth Brook	0	1	0				
Mrs. Lodge	0	1	0				
Miss D. B. Robinson	0	1	0				
Miss Mary Chapman	0	1	0				
Miss Kate Mitchell	0	1	0				
Miss Kate Marshall	0	2	6				
Miss B. Anderson	0	1	0				
Mrs. Ellen Salvidge	0	1	0				
Miss E. M. Chapman	0	1	0				
Miss M. A. Gray	0	1	0				
Mrs. S. Bancroft	0	1	0				
Miss Lillie Wilkinson	0	1	0				
Miss Kathleen Kelly, B.A.	0	2	6				
Miss M. Frances Naan	0	1	0				
Miss Kathleen Fraser	0	1	0				
Mrs. Theodore Isaac	0	1	0				
Miss Mary Phillips	0	1	0				
Mrs. Frances E. Rowe	0	1	0				
Miss Margaret Yeomans	0	2	6				
Mrs. K. Whitehead	0	1	0				
Mrs. Isabel Scholes	0	1	0				
Mrs. Rosanna Fowler	0	1	0				
Miss M. Postlethwaite	0	1	0				
Miss M. A. Blenkarn	0	1	0				
Mrs. M. Filer	0	1	0				
Miss Lucie Barnett Barton	0	1	0				
Miss Ada M. M. Donnell	0	1	0				
Miss Beryl Reeves	0	1	0				
Mrs. Appleford	0	1	0				
Miss Rosa Ford	0	1	0				
Mrs. Florence Archer	0	1	0				
Miss Laura Coxon	0	1	0				
Miss May G. E. Matthews	0	1	0				
Miss N. Keating	0	1	0				
Miss A. Helen Ward	0	1	0				
Miss Anna Murphy	0	1	0				
Miss Helen M. Craggs	0	1	0				
Miss Isabel King	0	1	0				
Miss Edith Swainston	0	1	3				
Miss Sarah A. Hopkin	0	1	0				
Mrs. Eliza Peace	0	1	0				
Miss Jessie Wrixley	0	1	0				
Miss L. A. Fleming	0	1	0				
Miss Dorothy Davis	0	1	0				
Miss May Billing	0	1	0				
Miss Annie Williams	0	1	0				
Miss Dorothy Radcliffe	0	1	0				
Miss Sarah Dawson	0	1	0				
Miss Katherine S. Martin	0	1	0				
Mrs. Bertha Brewster	0	1	0				
Collections, &c.							
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VOTES FOR WOMEN SUPPLEMENT.

No. XV.

FEBRUARY 13, 1908.

Price One Halfpenny.



"Votes for Women" is issued monthly, price 3d. The "Votes for Women Supplement," price 1d., is issued weekly on those Thursdays on which the monthly number is not published. Annual subscription, post free, all numbers, 7s. 4d.; monthly numbers only, 4s. Contributions for publication should reach the office not later than first post Monday morning, and should be sent to

The Editors,

"Votes for Women,"

4, Clements Inn, W.C.

THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL UNION.

Offices—4, Clements Inn, Strand, W.C.

Hon. Secretaries Mrs. Pankhurst and Mrs. Tuke.
Hon. Treasurer Mrs. Pethick Lawrence.
Organising Secretary Miss Christabel Pankhurst, LL.B.
Bankers Messrs. Barclay and Co., Fleet-street, E.C.

The result of the first day of the Women's Parliament is likely to be highly damaging to the Government, which by its continued refusal to meet the woman's claim by just dealing compels us to take extraordinary measures to bring home our demands. From our point of view, the day has been highly satisfactory. The fifty women who have been arrested showed remarkable pluck and determination, and the thanks of all women who love their sex are due to them for the spirited way in which they are holding up the flag. Undeterred by personal danger on the day or by fear of the sentences which may be inflicted they have gone forward, and our cause has gone forward with them.

Apart from the Women's Parliament, the movement has made very great strides during the last week. The result of the by-election at Worcester, declared on Saturday, was to give a majority of 1,292 against the Government candidate in place of 129 by which the Conservative was returned at the last General Election.

The By-Elections.

Our workers in South Leeds are putting forward every exertion in hope of defeating the Liberal nominee. Impossible as that seemed at first, owing to the enormous

Government majority at the General Election, the increase of support which is being manifested throughout the campaign encourages us in the hope that we may be actually successful. In any case, it is now widely understood by politicians that our work at elections is an important factor.

The Released Prisoners.

On Thursday, February 6, we welcomed from Holloway our comrades Mrs. Drummond, Miss New, Miss Smith, and Miss McArthur, who had been in prison for three weeks for the part they took in the demonstration outside Downing Street. The breakfast at the Eustace Miles Restaurant was a very great success, and the speeches of the prisoners were very interesting. Miss New's story about a little girl who said it was "Well worth the whipping" has been caught up on all sides.

Future Plans.

At the close of the election work, which has now occupied us for so many weeks, the various organisers and workers at present at Leeds will disperse in order to conduct the agitation in various parts of the country. As regards London, the business which will chiefly occupy us is the preparation for the great Women's Demonstration in the Albert Hall on March 19. We have also to bear in mind the series of lectures to be held in the Portman Rooms, Baker Street. The first of these will be delivered by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence on Tuesday, March 3, at 8.30.

Rapid Growth.

In other parts of the country there are signs of very great progress. As an outcome of the Nottingham campaign a local union has now been formed, the members of which have drawn up a comprehensive scheme of work. The enormous calls upon our resources have necessitated a further increase in many directions. It is only a fortnight since we moved our London "At Home" on Monday afternoon from Clements Inn to the small Portman Rooms, which hold about twice as many people, but we find ourselves already cramped for space, and, beginning next Monday, February 17, we are moving to the large Portman Rooms (entrance in Baker Street). All our friends are invited to bring others who are likely to be interested in the movement. We are appointing several additional members of the staff in order to deal with the amount of work which is required by the Union, and our list of organisers is being further increased by Miss Rae Barrett, who has done so much for the Union at by-elections and elsewhere.

Self-Denial Week.

I hope that all our members and friends will do their utmost in self-denial week, which commences on February 15, as it is important that we should raise as large a sum as possible for the furtherance of an active campaign during the next few months. It is certainly the duty of those who do not take part in the militant work of the Union to do their best to build up the National Campaign Fund. With the splendid material at our command we are then certain of defeating the Government at no very distant date.

CHRISTABEL PANKHURST.

RAID ON THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

A great blow was struck for woman's enfranchisement on Tuesday, February 11, the day of the opening of the Women's Parliament in the Caxton Hall.

Mrs. Pethick Lawrence presided, supported by Miss Annie Kenney, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, and others, including the recently released prisoners.

Mrs. Pankhurst sent a message from Leeds, in which she said that she would make the most of all that was said and all that was done in London that day. It might have a very big effect upon the result of the election in Leeds.

In moving a resolution protesting "against the unconstitutional action of the Government in refusing the Parliamentary vote to the women taxpayers of the country, and demanding the immediate enactment of a measure granting the Parliamentary franchise to duly qualified women," Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, addressing the women as "representatives of a voteless sex," said they had been called unconstitutional, but it was the Government which was breaking the fundamental law of the British Constitution that taxation and representation should go together.

It was impossible to use constitutional methods unless and until they should be included in the Constitution. The Government were acting illegally, and were unjustified in the opposition which they were making to the women's demands. Their demand was strictly legal and strictly reasonable. They meant to put forward their demands not in words only, but in actions.

A Miraculous Movement.

Their movement had been a miracle, as was shown by the fact that 200 women had been prepared to stand the test of imprisonment as a proof of their earnestness in the cause. The forces of destiny had declared that the womanhood of this country should be a free and a responsible womanhood.

Miss Christabel Pankhurst remarked that when they commenced by throwing down the glove to the strongest Government of modern times many thought they were audacious, but now they were all Suffragists together. (Applause.) Together they were the trustees of the honour of their sex.

Miss Pankhurst proceeded to show that the defeat of the Government in the recent by-elections was due to the work of the women, and not to the influence of Tariff Reform.

The Enfranchisement Bill.

Referring to the Bill for conferring the franchise on women (to be introduced this Session), Miss Pankhurst said: "It is a private member's Bill, and it will never become law if the Government are against it. We have got to bring pressure to bear on the Government between now and February 28, and we have got to make the Government wish they had given in before."

Miss Annie Kenney said that many of the Lancashire detachments were of the working-class, and before coming to London they had to bake the bread, to do the washing, and prepare for their husbands and families during the time they would be away in London. Every one was prepared to go to prison for her political enfranchisement.

She urged the women of social standing present to fight for the cause themselves, and go to prison if necessary, and not let the working-women do all the fighting. They wanted rich women and the middle-class women to go out and help to fight the battle.

Nothing to Stand in the Way.

Women had got to make up their minds, once and for all, that nothing should stand in their way and the way of their great movement, whether it be father, mother, sister, brother, or husband.

Miss Naylor moved that the resolution be at once conveyed to the Prime Minister.

The president said that this would not necessarily mean that they would be arrested, but all who went must be prepared for arrest.

Miss Haig appealed to all the women in the hall to help to swell the appeal to the Prime Minister. They might do wonders if they were all to work together.

Delegates from all parts of the country then addressed the meeting, and the resolution was unanimously carried.

While the meeting was going on in the Caxton Hall, a clever ruse was being adopted for bringing a number of women up to the immediate entrance to the House of Commons. A pantechicon van had been arranged to drive up the road shortly after four o'clock.

As the vehicle drew near to the entrance to St. Stephen's, the driver guided his horses well to the side of the road. On reaching the gate, the horses were pulled up, and in an instant the doors at the back of the van flew open, and some 20 to 30 women rushed out, and attempted to storm the entrance.

The police, however, were on the alert, and, although the leader of the troop got through the outer portal, the further progress of the women was prevented.

A little later the contingent from Caxton Hall, bringing copies of the resolution with them, proceeded down Victoria-street towards the House of Commons. But they were refused admittance by the police, acting under Government orders. The women insisted upon their right to enter the House, and, on being again refused, attempted to make their way in, in spite of the opposition of the police, and were taken into custody.

A similar scene was witnessed in the evening, and altogether 50 women were arrested. They were as follows:—

Miss Marie Naylor, Chelsea.
Miss Florence Haig, Chelsea.
Miss Mayo, Chelsea.
Miss Mary Phillips, Glasgow.
Miss Mary Mill, London.
Mrs. Robinson, Manchester.
Miss A. Wilkinson, Bury.
Miss Joachim, Chelsea.
Mrs. Duncan, Cheshire.
Miss Alice Hamilton, London.
Miss Jessie Mackay, Leeds.
Mrs. Titterton, Leeds.
Miss Wentworth, London.
Miss Amelia Kern, London.
Mrs. Rigby, Preston.
Miss L. Saltonstall, Halifax.
Mrs. Brook, Huddersfield.
Mrs. Older, Huddersfield.
Miss Dorothy Young, London.
Miss Marie Howey, Malvern.
Miss Elsa Gye, London.
Miss Mary Lane, London.
Miss Margt. Graham, London.
Mrs. Bouvier, Lewisham.
Mrs. Aldham, Cricklewood.
Miss Elsie Howey, Malvern.
Miss G. Brackenbury, Kensington.
Miss Laycock, Bradford.
Mrs. Glyde, Bradford.
Miss Howes, Bournemouth.
Miss Ida Cunard, Birmingham.
Mrs. Taylor, Liverpool.
Mrs. Wood, Birmingham.
Miss Laura Hemming, Birmingham.
Mrs. Marie Edwards, Birmingham.
Miss Adeline Redfern, Stoke-on-Trent.
Mrs. Alderman, Preston.
Mrs. Towler, Preston.
Mrs. Hesmondhalgh, Preston.
Mrs. Aldis, Birmingham.
Miss Marie Brackenbury, Kensington.
Miss Maloney, London.
Miss Titterton, Leeds.
Mrs. Cullen, Paddington.
Mrs. Batchelor, Bradford.
Miss Kuper, London.
Miss Emily Cowley, Liverpool.
Mrs. Whitworth, Rochdale.
Miss Charlotte Griffiths, Rochdale.
Mrs. Mary Jones, London.

They were all taken to Cannon-row police-station, where they were kept till 10.30 p.m., and then released on bail, Mr. Pethick Lawrence being prepared to go surety.

As we go to press the cases are being heard in Rochester-row police-court.

THE BY-ELECTIONS.

Worcester (City).

E. A. Goulding (C.)	4,301
Harold Elverston (L.)	3,069
Maj.	1,202

At the last Election the Conservative was returned by a majority of 129.

The result of the polling (given above) in Worcester has been another triumphant victory for our work. The Government candidate has been roundly defeated, and the enthusiasm shown in the by-election in favour of the women has made unmistakable evidence that we have had a large share in the result.

Miss Keevil, in her report of the last week in Worcester, writes:—

During the last week we held an average of six meetings a day, including those at the factory gates; we concentrated especially on the Liberal wards, with the result that Liberal men on polling day showed their disapproval of the present Government's attitude towards our question by voting against it.

The reception held at the Star Hotel was an unqualified success, over 300 were present, and showed much enthusiasm over the speeches of both Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Mrs. Pankhurst. We received many promises of financial help, and gained several new members, and everyone was saying now they understood our methods and thought them quite reasonable.

As usual on polling day, our workers stood at the booth giving the voters a final reminder to "Keep the Liberal out," the result proved that our friends had helped in the way we had been asking them to. Miss Brackenbury and I were in the Guildhall during the count. When the record majority became known it was evident that it had far exceeded the expectations of the most sanguine Conservatives; for, as usual, they had entirely left out of account the work of the N.W.S.P.U.

South Leeds.

Liberal	Mr. William Middlebrook.
Conservative	Mr. Reginald Neville, K.C.
Labour	Mr. A. Fox (Engineers.)

W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms, 162, Dewsbury-road.

The figures at the General Election were: Sir J. L. Walton (L.), 6,200; Albert Fox (Lab.), 4,030; Sir H. F. Lucy (U.), 2,126.

The members of the N.W.S.P.U. working the election include the following:—Mrs. Pankhurst, Mrs. Martel, Miss Gawthorpe, Miss A. Pankhurst, Miss Sidley, Mrs. Baines, Miss Crocker, Miss Keevil, Miss Gye, Mrs. Massy, Miss Lambert, Miss New, Miss Brooks, Miss Barrett, Mrs. Wilson, and Leeds local union. By the time this issue of the supplement comes before the public South Leeds will be polling, for or against, the women of the country, for or against, further imprisonments of our countrywomen—women for whom there is no turning back now, come what may.

The Press in all its branches is commenting upon the "splendid reception" accorded to the Suffragettes by the hard-working industrial electorate of South Leeds. But we are explaining to the vast audiences which gather nightly in five or six centres simultaneously that such kindly reception has never been exceptional where the great majority was concerned, but has been the rule; and people are thus realising that Press boycotts and mis-reports only indicate what a power we have really been in previous by-elections, as well as in this.

The Liberal party here is exceedingly nervous and apprehensive of results. The loss of such an important seat as South Leeds—a seat filled so recently by a member of the present ministry—would be a fearful blow at the Government's prestige in all industrial centres.

The midday meetings are enormous gatherings, as most of the people live as well as work in this division, and one gets women from the homes, in addition to the army of men and women workers who swarm from the numerous mills, factories, engineering works, and general workshops on every side. It was when telling of our proposed procession to one of these midday meetings that we were begged to arrange it for the eve of the poll, instead of polling day, so that the men and women workers may join in. The idea has caught on. The mass meeting on Hunslet Moor on Sunday, when we had three platforms and an aggregate audience computed at 20,000, and when a resolution calling for "Votes this Session" and put simultaneously from the three platforms, was carried practi-

cally unanimously, gives us hope of a magnificent response to the procession. We are to have a band, torches, banners, three rallying centres, and a mass meeting on Hunslet Moor after the route of the procession has been traversed.

During the past week fifty general meetings have been held, and women's special daily meetings are now in full swing. For the last three days tours of street-corner meetings of five or ten minutes, while the housewives are at home, are being carried out.

To us there are two specially gratifying features of this election. One is that the women, both in the mills and in the homes, are "wearing the button" right and left; and the other is that the men voters are not only flagrantly open in their support, but are as enthusiastic as the women over the preparations for the procession—which, I trust, by the time this is printed may have been instrumental in hastening a "smashing defeat" for the Government nominee.

It would, indeed, be a waste of time sending the latter gentleman to the House, as when asked more than once by men supporters if he would join the Parliamentary members' committee for Women's Suffrage, "if returned," he has stated that he knows nothing of it; and yet he is very much "in favour" of "Votes for Women"!

MARY E. GAWTHORPE.

That the Leeds special correspondent to the *Daily News*, February 11, fully appreciates that the militant suffragist is a power to be reckoned with is shown by the following candid statement:—

The greater part of the day has been spent by Mr. Middlebrook in making personal friends among the engineers, who form a vast majority of the electorate, and—what is equally important in a constituency where the Suffragists are working with tremendous vigour and no mean success—friends with the engineers' wives. No good purpose could be served by shutting one's eyes to the part which women's suffrage is playing upon this occasion. In the opinion of South Leeds, at any rate, the female suffrage question has entered the region of immediate practical politics. At Worcester, Hereford, and Mid-Devon the cause fell flat, but one has only to watch the women here, shawled and voluble, on their way to such mass meetings as those held yesterday on Hunslet Moor, when 10,000 people gathered round three platforms to listen quietly to the young orators, who have become famous, in order to be convinced what the subject stands for among the industrial democracy.

A WEEK OF SELF-DENIAL.

February 15th to 22nd.

The oldest and the youngest member of the union, the richest and the poorest, the woman already giving up the whole of her life to the women's battle for freedom, and the woman immersed in domestic, business, or society affairs, will one and all put forth some new endeavour to enlist during this particular week new battle comrades, and especially to bring fresh supplies to the war chest.

In the past the men of our race have always chosen battle rather than subjection. Women worthy of the British stock and the British tradition must do the same. They are doing it to-day. The only difference is that the women's war is waged without bloodshed, and without injury to life or limb, or property, except their own.

All women cannot bear a part in the active warfare, but honour and duty bid them, if they cannot go themselves into the field, to equip others who can and will. Money is required for holding meetings, for travelling, for printing, for organisation, for electioneering, and for keeping this issue before the electorate, and before the women of the country, who, by reason of sex only, are shut out from the electorate.

Therefore, let every woman, as she values her self-respect, respond to the call of Self-Denial Week. Send to the hon. treasurer, 4, Clements Inn, Strand, for our self-denial collecting card. Collect, earn, save, or give money to the Campaign Fund. Find some way in which you can help before the special week runs out.

The sum total raised by all the efforts put forward on the part of thousands of individuals during this week will be announced at the great demonstration in the Royal Albert Hall on the evening of March 19.

EMMELINE P. LAWRENCE.

THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

Chelsea W.S.P.U.—Miss Lilian Sheppard gave on January 29, a most successful "At Home" in her studio, addressed by Miss Evelyn Sharp and Miss Naylor. Several of the guests there said to us that Miss Evelyn Sharp and Miss Naylor would convince anyone; that they were so convinced is testified by the number of people there who were converted and have since joined. Some of those present offered sums of money, which amounted to just upon £6. After looking to the needs of the Chelsea Union, Miss Sheppard hopes to send up the rest to Clements Inn. For self-denial week Chelsea is joining with Kensington in collecting at the railway stations. We are also sending out a letter to all friends and sympathisers, by which means we hope to get funds in.—F. E. HAIG (hon. secretary).

Lewisham W.S.P.U.—On Friday, February 7, our Union held an "At Home" to welcome Miss New. We had a good attendance, several strangers were present, and Miss New was greeted with applause. She was the speaker of the evening, and gave an account of the Downing-street raid and of her life in prison. She also made a strong appeal to the women present to take an active part in our movement. Several ladies took the self-denial cards, and new members were enrolled. We realised 6s. from the sale of home-made marzipan and mince pies. Some wooden toys made by a blind gentleman, a supporter of our movement, were also disposed of.—J. A. BOUVIER.

Streatham and Brixton W.S.P.U.—A drawing-room meeting was held at Mrs. Tanner's, 32, Wynne-road, Brixton, on Friday evening, February 7, for the purpose of giving the members of the local union an opportunity to welcome home Miss McArthur, the secretary, on her release from Holloway Prison. There was a good attendance, Miss McArthur being warmly congratulated on her courage in going to prison. The guest of the evening related her experiences in prison, and said that the life there, even as a second-class prisoner, was a hardship from beginning to end. In the course of her remarks, she stated that the object of the aggressive tactics of the Union was to arouse the interest of men and women in the demand for women's suffrage. She knew from her own experience and the experience of other workers that that aim was frequently achieved, and people who had been indifferent came forward time after time to make inquiries concerning the facts of the movement. On the motion of Mrs. Chandler, a cordial vote of thanks was passed to Miss McArthur. The meeting also resolved to send a memorial to the Home Secretary, protesting against the treatment meted out to second-class misdemeanants in prison.

Yorkshire Report.—We are arranging meetings and "At Homes" to welcome back those who have attended the Women's Parliament. Every member is called upon to attend her Union meetings, and do her best to make these successful. In Leeds and Sheffield our members are having collecting-boxes at the stations. Such work needs devotion and courage, but it can be done by every one who cares for the cause, and appreciates the sacrifice which other women are making for her and desires to make some return.

ADELA PANKHURST.

Scottish Notes.—The work here is progressing most promisingly. The acquisition of the new offices has given a new impetus to the movement, and our committee is showing itself very enthusiastic; new members are being enrolled every week, and the Saturday afternoon "At Homes" are proving a complete success.

Some of our new members are developing a genius for missionary effort amongst their friends, constantly returning for fresh supplies of pamphlets and leaflets, and bringing in recruits as the result of the judicious distribution of the same. Some have already intimated their intention of stopping all contributions previously given to charitable purposes and devoting the amounts to "the cause" until it has been crowned with success, an example which ought to be followed by every earnest supporter who realises the paramount importance of the change we are seeking to bring about.

Active preparations are being made for the series of meetings next week at which Mrs. Pankhurst and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence are speaking, Lady Ramsay also coming from the North of Scotland.

My meeting at Wishaw was very successful; a large and interested audience and a good discussion. I also spoke at a large open-air meeting in Glasgow this week, and have since had evidence of its having had good effect.

At Saturday's "At Home" Mrs. Hunter and Miss Mary Phillips spoke, as well as myself, and several new members joined.

Amongst the meetings to be addressed by Mrs. Pankhurst on her coming visit is one that has been specially arranged for teachers. This is arousing considerable interest, and should bear good fruit.

HELEN FRASER.

Breakfast to the Released Prisoners.

The release of the prisoners connected with the Downing-street demonstration was celebrated by a most successful breakfast at the Eustace Miles Restaurant. The following account, taken from the "Daily Chronicle," gives the story of the day:—

At eight o'clock in the morning Miss Christabel Pankhurst and a body of supporters of the Women's Social and Political Union, about 100 strong, gathered at the entrance of Holloway Prison. They were supported by a brass band, which, as the four ladies emerged from the prison, struck up "Rule, Britannia," with special emphasis on the passage, "Britons never shall be slaves."

After warm greetings had been exchanged, the ex-prisoners and Miss Pankhurst drove to the Eustace Miles Restaurant, where a festive breakfast was arranged for some 150 guests. Each of the released ladies was presented by Mr. Pethick Lawrence with a bouquet of daffodils, whose golden glory must have been very welcome after the gloomy monotony of prison surroundings.

Miss Christabel Pankhurst, who presided, said that their comrades had been in the second division for three weeks; that is, they had been treated in every way as ordinary criminals, except that they were in the section of the prison reserved for first offenders and women previously of good character.

A resolution condemning the reactionary policy of the Government and demanding the enfranchisement of women was moved by Mrs. Drummond. Describing her raid into Downing-street, she said she went to the house of the Prime Minister because he was the Minister of the people. She was unrepresented, therefore she had a right to go to him and explain what women wanted. "Indeed," she asked, "how could I help knocking at the door when there was such an interesting person on the other side of it?" Miss Olivia Smith, who has now served her third term in Holloway, and who was looking thin and pale, said that the food given was not sufficient to support anyone in health. However, she had been able to vary the monotony of making mail-bags by reading Shakespeare.

Miss New, in a lively speech, said that she had always been reproached in her home as a chatterbox; now she had been through three weeks' silence. "You have no idea what it means," she said, amidst laughter. But she was quite ready to do it again. She thought that the highest privilege anyone could have was to be a Suffragist.

In her prison she had thought of the two little children whipped and put to bed for some misdeed, and the little girl whispering, "Don't cry, Teddy. Wasn't it fun? Wasn't it well worth the whipping?" So she thought, as she walked round the prison yard, "it is well worth the whipping." (Cheers.)

Miss MacArthur, speaking of her experiences, said the stripping ceremony was quite the worst thing to go through, and, however necessary, it might be conducted with more care for privacy.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS.

Up to the End of February (as far as at present arranged).

Feb. 12	London, Women's Parliament, (Wed.)	Caxton Hall	Chairman: Mrs. Pankhurst	3 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Feb. 13	London, Women's Parliament, (Thurs.)	Caxton Hall		
Feb. 15	Newmillns		Miss H. Fraser	..
Feb. 16	Darvel, P.S.A.		Miss H. Fraser	..
Feb. 17	London, Portman Rooms, "At Home" (Mon.)	(Baker-st. Entrance), Walthamstow, Trinity Literary and Debating Society, Motherwell, Town Hall	Miss Christabel Pankhurst	4-6 p.m.
			Miss Isabel Seymour	..
			Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Helen Fraser	8 p.m.
Feb. 18	Rochdale Offices		Miss Ida Payne	3 p.m.
Feb. 18	Bournemouth, The Westbourne Literary and Debating Society		Miss E. Sharp	8 p.m.
Feb. 19	Dumbarton		Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Fraser	..
Feb. 20	Glasgow, Athenaeum Hall		Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Fraser	..
Feb. 20	London, 4, Clements Inn, "At Home" (Thurs.)		Miss Christabel Pankhurst	8 p.m.
			Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Fraser	..
			Miss H. Lightman	8.30 p.m.
			Mrs. Drummond, Miss New, and other released prisoners	8 p.m.
Feb. 21	Hamilton		Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Fraser	..
Feb. 22	Glasgow, "At Home," 141, Bath Street		Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss H. Fraser	..
Feb. 24	London, Portman Rooms, "At Home" (Mon.)		Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Christabel Pankhurst	4-6 p.m.
Feb. 25	Norwood		Dr. Jones	..
Feb. 26	Forest Gate, Earlsam-road		Miss Christabel Pankhurst	8 p.m.
Feb. 27	London, 4, Clements Inn		At Home	8 p.m.

Important Future Events.

Mar. 3	Portman Rooms, Lecture	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence	8.30 p.m.
Mar. 10	Portman Rooms, Lecture	Dr. Garrett Anderson	8.30 p.m.
Mar. 19	Royal Albert Hall	Mrs. Pankhurst, and others	8 p.m.
Mar. 24	Portman Rooms, Lecture	Mrs. Pankhurst	8.30 p.m.
Mar. 31	Portman Rooms, Lecture	Miss Eliz. Robins	8.30 p.m.
April 7	Portman Rooms, Lecture	Miss C. Pankhurst	8.30 p.m.
June 21	Hyde Park Demonstration	All the Leaders	1 p.m.

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VOTES FOR WOMEN SUPPLEMENT.

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The Editors,

"Votes for Women,"

4, Clements Inn, W.C.

THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL UNION.

Offices—4, Clements Inn, Strand, W.C.

Hon. Secretaries Mrs. Pankhurst and Mrs. Tuke.

Hon. Treasurer Mrs. Pethick Lawrence.

Organising Secretary Miss Christabel Pankhurst, LL.B.

Bankers Messrs. Barclay and Co., Fleet-street, E.C.

Since the publication of last week's supplement the second and third days' Parliament have taken place. On the Thursday it was determined to make one more effort to endeavour to approach the Government on the question of enfranchisement of women, and Mrs. Pankhurst decided to go in person, 12 other women undertaking to accompany her. The result of that offer is well known; she and nine of her followers were arrested, and in spite of the fact that theirs was nothing but a perfectly peaceful political object, they were arrested and brought before the magistrate the next day. The authorities refused to try them in a way which would have fully revealed to the public the political nature of their offence, and insisted on charging them with obstructing the police. The absurdity of such a charge was admitted by every person who witnessed the arrest of Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Kenney, and the others.

The Effect on the Women of the Country.

The imprisonment of nearly 60 women for six weeks, has sent a thrill throughout the women of our Union up and down the country, and has also reached many women who before did not agree with our tactics. The response is coming in many ways. Large meetings of protest are being organised in Yorkshire and in other parts of the country. Our proposal of a self-denial week is being taken up with avidity, and on page lxxx. will

be found an account of some of the things that women are doing. A very large number have taken collecting-cards, and it is hoped that no stone will be left unturned to obtain funds for the Union.

Mrs. Pankhurst's Message.

Mrs. Pankhurst has been visited in prison, and has sent the following message:—

I am overjoyed to hear of the efforts that women are making to strengthen this movement in every way. My message to them is to be of good courage and to work, work, work for the success of the great Albert Hall demonstration on March 19. They must not be anxious about me. Though I have been obliged to go into hospital for a few days, I hope soon to be better and to go back to the ordinary cells, where I can see our comrades every day in the exercise yard. Whatever happens, I shall stay in Holloway till my six weeks are up.

Albert Hall.

The great meeting of women, on March 19, is the first which has ever been held in the Albert Hall to demand the vote, and we believe that the seating accommodation will be strained to the uttermost in order to provide room for those who will wish to take part; but if this is to be so every one of our members must make the meeting known to her friends, and, as far as possible, must induce them to take tickets, the prices of which are 5s., 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d. One member has already pledged herself to sell six pounds' worth of tickets, and if others will take a similar task upon themselves there is no doubt of the tremendous effect which this will produce.

Other Arrangements.

Other meetings are being arranged in different parts of the country. In addition to the special meetings in Yorkshire there will be meetings in Leicester, in various Lancashire towns, in Leeds, in Mid-Devon, Worcester, Hereford, Bristol, and other places. I hope that the lectures in the Portman Rooms, commencing on March 3, will be attended, and our London members will bring them to the notice of their friends.

The Leeds Election.

Though nothing short of a Government defeat would have satisfied us at Leeds, we feel that we had a very great effect upon the election, the extracts from the "Leeds Mercury" and London "Daily Chronicle," which are given on the next page, are indications that the Liberals are beginning to see that we have to be reckoned with. It is essential that in all future elections we should have the services of all workers who are able to be present.

Government Intentions.

On Monday, February 17, Mr. Byles put the following question to Mr. Asquith:—

Whether, having regard to the growing excitement in the country among women who were demanding the franchise, and to the unseemly street and police-court scenes which resulted, he could see his way to make some statement to the House on the subject, such as would be calculated to allay the resentment and impatience that had become so menacing to the maintenance of public order.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer replied:—

No, sir, I understand that my right hon. friend has no expectation that any statement which he might make would be attended by the favourable results foreshadowed by my hon. friend.

This answer shows that the Government are not prepared to do anything unless we force their hand. We shall watch very carefully their action in regard to Mr. Stanger's Bill.

CHRISTABEL PANKHURST.

WOMEN'S PARLIAMENT AND THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

In last week's issue of the VOTES FOR WOMEN SUPPLEMENT an account was given of the first day's Parliament, and of the arrest of 50 women for their attempt to reach the House of Commons.

Next day they were all tried at the Rochester-row Police-court; Mr. Muskett, prosecuting for the Crown, said that the powers of the authorities were not exhausted, that if the disturbances continued they would be obliged to prosecute under a statute of Charles II., forbidding a procession of more than ten persons to the House of Commons, the penalty for which was £100 or three months' imprisonment. Such a course would carry the case from the police-court to a higher court, and in the present instance he asked that the cases should be dealt with summarily under the Police Acts.

The prisoners took up an extremely dignified attitude in court, not disputing the evidence except in order to show the political character of their action. In 47 out of the 50 cases they were bound over in two sureties of £20 to keep the peace for twelve months, and in default to go to prison for six weeks in the second division.

Mrs. Kuper was discharged on the ground that the evidence against her was inconclusive, Mrs. Rigby and Miss Titterington as "old offenders" were fined £5 or sent to prison for a month.

In all cases except two (whose relatives were very ill) the women chose prison, and were sent off to Holloway.

Wednesday's Parliament.

When that afternoon Mrs. Pethick Lawrence announced to the Parliament of Women that 50 of their number who had the day before gone out from the meeting to carry a resolution to the Prime Minister, had been arrested and sent to prison for six weeks, there were hisses and cries of "Shame."

Mrs. Lawrence then moved a resolution deploring "the lowering of the British standards of justice and equity in the estimation of the world through the treatment meted out to voteless women demanding their civil liberties by a reactionary Government." This was carried unanimously, the audience standing.

Mrs. Lawrence then went on to say that that Women's Parliament would go down to posterity as one of the most important Parliaments that had ever been held in history.

Miss Christabel Pankhurst referred to the speech made by Mr. Muskett when prosecuting the Suffragettes in the police-court that morning, in which he had threatened that an Act of Charles II. would be put into operation against them. "This takes us back to stirring times, ladies," she said. "At last it is realised that the women are fighting for freedom as their fathers did. If they want twelve women, aye, and more than twelve, if a hundred are wanted to be tried under that Act, and to be sent to prison for three months, they can be found."

Thursday's Session.

When Mrs. Pankhurst appeared on the platform on Thursday afternoon, she received a most enthusiastic reception, and the audience listened eagerly to her account of the by-election campaign in South Leeds, and especially to the story of the torch-light procession, and the wonderful meeting of 100,000 people on Hunslet Moor. Mrs. Pankhurst told how police assistance in organising the procession had been refused, and how Miss Mary Gawthorpe, Mrs. Massy, and Miss Barrett, who walked in front, had been obliged to clear their own way through the thronging crowds; and yet of how there had been no disorder, only sympathy and enthusiasm, all along the route with the vast crowds that parted to let the procession pass through, joining on to it behind. She spoke of the earnestness of the women, and of how some had kept calling out in broad Yorkshire, "Shall us have the vote?" and others answering, "We shall." "I have come back to London," continued Mrs. Pankhurst, "feeling as I have never felt before, that we are near the end of the struggle. I feel that the time has come when I must act. If you carry the resolution which I am about to put to you, I volunteer from the chair to be one of those to carry it to Parliament this afternoon."

The resolution, which called for the immediate enfranchisement of women, was then read. Miss Annie Kenney, in second-

ing it, said that she was prepared to follow Mrs. Pankhurst, as she had always done since first she met her. The resolution was then carried, and Mrs. Pankhurst and her following left to carry it to the Prime Minister.

Outside the hall an extraordinary scene took place. Mrs. Pankhurst's trap was stopped, and she was told she must walk; this she agreed to do. The police told her that the women must not walk in a block, they accordingly adopted single file. They then said that they must not go in a continuous file, but in twos and threes; this they also agreed to. But the police refused to allow them to proceed, and on their insisting upon going to the House of Commons took them into custody. The names of the arrested were:—

Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Annie Kenney, Miss Gladice Keevil, Mrs. Baldock, Mrs. Kerwood, Birmingham, Mrs. Sidley, London, Miss Frith, London, Miss Annie Parker, Chelsea, Miss M. Keegan, London, Miss H. Allen, London.

When the Parliament reassembled at eight o'clock, the names of those who had been arrested were known.

The hall was crowded, and the audience seething with mingled indignation and enthusiasm, which burst out in a thunder of applause as Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Kenney, and the other prisoners who had been let out on bail entered.

Mrs. Pankhurst said: "When I left the hall this afternoon I did not expect to return in time to meet you this evening, but the adjournment of the House of Commons has given me the opportunity to explain to you what I was not permitted to tell Mr. Herbert Gladstone and others this afternoon. My experience in the country, and especially in South Leeds, has taught me things which Cabinet Ministers, who have not that experience, have no means of knowing, and has made me feel that I would make one final attempt to see them, and to urge them to reconsider their position before some terrible disaster has occurred.

"The urgent need that they should do so has been especially borne in upon me by the remarkable demonstration of last night. The Press has never magnified our agitation, but the *Leeds Mercury*, the *Yorkshire Post*, and other papers, have to-day pointed out the great public importance of this demonstration. Thousands and thousands of men and women followed our procession through the streets, and attended our meeting on Hunslet Moor, and among them all there was hardly a sneer or a jeer, not even from among the Liberals themselves, but what impressed me the most, and made me almost afraid, was the stern determination of the crowd to restrain any demonstration against us. We had to beg and plead with the people to save the university students, who were hostile to us, from their anger, or serious consequences would have resulted. From time to time we saw signs that the restraint that we have been up to now been able to exercise over the crowd might be broken through, and that the men and women might take to methods of agitation which were employed by men when they fought for the franchise.

"It was for these reasons that I thought that, as a woman of experience in many movements, I might be able to persuade those in power, for the sake of the country, to do this tardy act of justice."

Mrs. Pankhurst then went on to describe the manner of her arrest, and to explain how very anxious she had been to comply with every order or request made by the authorities which was consistent with her arriving at the House of Commons. "If charged with obstruction," she continued, "no doubt we shall be found guilty, whether we are charged with breaking police regulations or under an obsolete Act of Charles II., but we shall continue the agitation. We shall never rest or falter till the long weary struggle for enfranchisement is won."

On Friday morning the prisoners come up for trial. The authorities charging them with "obstructing the police" tried once more to make the public believe that the whole thing was in the nature of a street row. But Mrs. Pankhurst, in her remarks after sentence had been passed, showed the perversion that this pretence implied.

The sentence was the same as on the previous occasion: six weeks' imprisonment in default of being bound over for twelve months. Annie Kenney and Mrs. Baldock, as previous offenders, received £5 fine or a month's imprisonment. The prisoners one and all chose to go to prison rather than to pledge their conduct in a way which would have prohibited them from continuing the agitation.

THE BY-ELECTIONS.

South Leeds.

Mr. W. Middlebrook (L.)	.. .. .	5,274
Mr. R. J. Neville (C.)	.. .. .	4,915
Mr. A. Fox (Lab.)	.. .. .	2,451

Liberal Majority 359

The figures at the General Election were: Sir J. L. Walton (L.), 6,200; Albert Fox (Lab.), 4,030; Sir H. F. Lucy (U.), 2,176.

"We may remind Conservative journals that Mr. Neville owed a good many votes to the activity of the Suffragettes, who did not succeed in defeating the Liberal candidate, but who, by all accounts, created an unexpectedly favourable impression in the constituency, made many proselytes, and possibly kept away a few voters from the Liberal side."—Leeds Mercury (Liberal).

The Leeds by-election is over. We managed to reduce the Liberal majority of four figures down to 329. Had we another three or four days I feel confident we should have kept the Government nominee out.

On Sunday, 9th, we had over 20,000 persons at our three centres on Hunslet Moor, and at 4.30 we put our resolution simultaneously, and the show of hands was a sight never to be forgotten. Never before had any party been able to attract so large a crowd. On Wednesday night we had a great procession, which started from three centres—Parkfield View, Penny Hill, and Hunslet Hall-road, headed by a brass band; when we all met on the Hunslet Moor. According to the police there were over 100,000 persons. It was a grand sight that procession. Women cheerfully waving their handkerchiefs or clapping their hands, or calling out "Success to you," &c., as Mrs. Pankhurst and I drove past. Mill girls and women singing "Vote, vote for women," and then asking "Shall us win? Yes." "Are we downhearted? No!" Looking back, all we could see was a moving crowd, and looking forward was the same. Besides, the doors and windows were all crowded with spectators. Devices such as "A vote for Middlebrook means votes for women," and a man dressed as a "Liberal Suffragette," with a legend on his cloak "Vote for Middlebrook and justice to all"; these misled some people, of course, but since the election we hear the Liberals are very much disappointed at the great reduction in their majority, and some have had the courage to say that had men known that six weeks' imprisonment would have been given to Mrs. Pankhurst they are sure their man would not have got in. News of Mrs. Pankhurst's arrest reached us too late; had it occurred before the poll sympathy was so keen it would have kept the Liberal out.

N. A. MARTEL.

Never have we had a more magnificent and whole-hearted reception from a constituency than in South Leeds, and when the news of Mrs. Pankhurst's arrest reached us on polling day, late in the afternoon, it was remarkable to note the effect it made on the men as they trooped by on the way home after the day's work.

Taken in Silence.

One and all they took it in silence, as though unable to believe it. Only the day before Mrs. Pankhurst had spoken at our great women's meeting (we had to have two "overflows"), and had told the women why she was going to London, what the Women's Parliament meant, and what it would mean if we could actually defeat the tyrannical Government of the day in South Leeds.

There were scores of women in that meeting who would have gone with the leader next morning when she went London-wards if they had been able to do so. It is a fact that everyone who does go to prison is only representative of the hundreds who would go if they had no little ones to look after, or if no such binding claim as that stood in the way.

The last three days before the poll were packed with meetings. Mrs. Baines and Mrs. Massy were exceptionally successful with the street-corner meetings which they addressed from a small waggonette, a bell being rung vigorously as a summons to the housewives to come out for five or ten minutes. These meetings generally closed with announcements of the large evening meetings, and details of the procession which was to take place the eve of the poll. The thirty meetings of Monday were followed by nearly forty on the Tuesday; Wednesday concentrating on almost a dozen dinner-hour meetings, followed by special afternoon meetings, in order to get ready for

the great evening procession. The latter was simply a stupendous success, winding up with a tremendous gathering of 100,000 people on Hunslet Moor, as testified by the Press generally.

It will be remembered that the great "reformers' mass meeting" at Birmingham prior to the Reform Bill being passed was no larger than this. Local residents tell us, too, that our demonstration on the Moor the previous Sunday was as large as the demonstration in favour of "Votes for Men" in the sixties. Those of us who marched at the head of the procession could not see the wonderful sight as the onlooker saw it, with the banners, torches, and band, not to mention the thousands of people who walked in it; but Mrs. Pankhurst and Mrs. Martel, who rode in an open carriage, told us it was a magnificent sight, whilst local friends said "there'd niver bin owt like it!"

Though our ranks were sadly depleted on polling day owing to the departure of so many workers to the seat of war in London, we managed to have one official representative at each polling station, with local helpers in addition. The Liberals tried to have us moved from these positions, but the feeling of the people who have been with us all along, in addition to the higher ruling of the police authorities, prevented that.

It is splendid that the Liberal poll should be down over a thousand votes, but it is a great pity it was not about two hundred less. We are now very busy with self-denial work, and are also working up six large protest meetings "against the Government."

MARY E. GAWTHORPE.

A Liberal Testimony.

The "Daily Chronicle" of February 15, had an amusing article under the title "Losing an Election," in which the writer gave sarcastic advice to the Liberal party on the best methods to be adopted in order to lose an election. The portion about the Suffragettes is reproduced below.

The Suffragist.

A fourth plan is at once newer and more dashing. It is at least equally successful. Leave it to the women—to the suffragist "ladies," to the guileless Amazons who, after being carried out of meetings in the provinces, come up to town, full of enthusiasm, to batter at the doors of Cabinet Ministers, and joyfully entreat to be sent to prison—as first-class misdemeanants and "martyrs." By whatever name they call themselves, these daughters of sweet reasonableness can be trusted to make hay of all things political which are not their chosen things; and their name it is Woman—woman on the warpath—woman as the new big child, who can't wait a moment for the moon or the rainbow, but must have it just now, while she screams. Plainly, this stampede can do a great deal of execution of a sort. It cares not a copper for any party, or principle, or prejudice, but its own. "We Women!" is at once the badge of it, and its battle-cry, and its promise for the future.

It gives no guarantees, announces no creed or programme. Since it refuses to endure any "man-made laws," one must conclude that a full repeal of every piece of legislation known to the world is in view, back to the dawn of history, and including the Ten Commandments. It is obvious, then, that in "We Women" you have a form of energy very useful for disturbing "the balance of parties." Give it scope, and it will frighten a number of quiet persons, who might otherwise call themselves Liberals, into the Tory camp. For whatever label Conservatism may wear, and whatever horn it may toot, its one simple, unchanging design is to subject the poor to the rich and Woman to Man. It will always manage that, somehow.

Wherefore, if you desire to lose an election, the suffragist is one of the means you should employ—even court—for the purpose. She is the new class, the new revolutionary. She intends that, Liberal or Tory, she shall dictate terms. Whether she can make a success of this for herself remains to be seen. While she plays chauffeur, and means to have a long spin, the Conservative man is there, with his hand on the speed-gear. He knows the trick; he is a very old hand. The stormy suffragist is very young; as a politician she is a babe a span long. But she can help lose a seat for you, and is very ready to oblige that way.

Making allowance for the bias of the paper in which the article appears, this is testimony to the effectiveness of the women's part in elections which is well worth having.

NOT A POLICE DISTURBANCE.

In order to make clear the real nature of the action of the W.S.P.U. leaders on Thursday, February 13, the following letter was sent to the Press:—

DEAR SIR,—The report of the proceedings in the Police-court yesterday, when Mrs. Pankhurst and her fellow-prisoners were tried, does not make clear the facts of the case. The prisoners were charged with obstructing the police. But this obstruction was of a purely technical character. The evidence showed that not only did the women use no violence of any kind, but that they followed in every respect the instructions given to them by the police, except that they refused to abandon their intention of proceeding to the House of Commons. There was no disturbance and no disorder, and the crowd was not of their making. The offence, if any, was a political one, namely, the insistence of a deputation of 13 women to go to present a petition to the Prime Minister.

The attempt of the Government, acting through the Crown Prosecutor, to pour contempt on the movement by pretending that our agitation is in the nature of a street row, will not succeed. Our object is political, and it can only be met in a political way. The Government, having failed to take the initiative in bringing in a Suffrage Bill, must now give every assistance to the Bill of Mr. Stanger, the second reading debate of which is fixed for February 28.

We look to the Government to secure, not only the second reading of this Bill, but also that it will be sent to a Standing Committee, and we require an assurance that "facilities" shall be given to it on its return to the whole House on the Report stage. In this way, and in this way alone, can our militant campaign be stayed.

Yours, &c.,

CHRISTABEL PANKHURST.

February 15, 1908.

THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

Scottish Notes.—This week we have watched eagerly the course of events in London where the actions of our Women's Parliament mark a great step forward in the movement.

Two Scotswomen, Miss Mary Phillips and Mrs. Robinson, better known to us as Annot Wilkie, were arrested on Tuesday afternoon, and, with the other first offenders, have been sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment in the second division.

Mrs. Pankhurst's arrest and imprisonment have aroused great indignation here, and the repressive measures of the Government will only bring more and more women into our ranks.

Mrs. Pankhurst was to speak here next week at several meetings. Miss Isabel Seymour is coming North as a substitute, and on Wednesday evening we shall have Mrs. Pethick Lawrence.

Lady Ramsay speaks at Tarves, on Monday evening, on "Votes for Women."

To-day I speak at Darvel P.S.A. Last night I was at Newmilns.

HELEN FRASER.

Bowes Park and District W.S.P.U.—This Union is doing useful and lasting work for our movement. The last monthly "At Home" was splendidly attended, and the audience heard with great interest the addresses of Miss Seymour and Mrs. Rowe on our work and methods. One of our members read a paper on "Votes for Women" at a Young Liberals' Meeting in Tottenham, and made a capital impression on those present. Several members attended a debate on "Votes for Women" at a Young Men's Club, to which ladies had been invited. As a result of our arguments, the chairman (the minister of the Baptist Church with which the club is connected) declared himself a "Suffragette" from that time forward. Members now carry literature about with them, leave it in public conveyances, and wherever it is likely to do good.—RACHAEL NEAL (Secretary).

Chiswick W.S.P.U.—On Saturday, February 22, at "Norman-hurst," Sutton Court-road, Chiswick, W., a sale of post-card novelties for children will be held. The sale will be open from three till six in the afternoon, and we trust that local friends will not fail to look in and help to make it a financial success.

Lewisham W.S.P.U.—On Sunday, February 16, in spite of the high wind, we raised our banner on Blackheath Common and held two meetings, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. At both meetings the audience was quiet and attentive, proving in this respect a marked contrast to the audiences at our autumn meetings. Miss New and Miss Leigh gave excellent addresses, and we collected 10s. towards our campaign funds.—R. W. BILLINGHURST.

SELF-DENIAL WEEK.

By THE TREASURER.

Self-Denial Week is going to be a great success. The members of the W.S.P.U. have surpassed themselves in ingenuity and resource and devotion. Many original plans have been thought out, not by the organisers of the Union, but by individual members, and the novelty and boldness of these conceptions have struck the fancy of Pressmen, and secured unlooked-for notice in the newspapers all over the country. Just a few examples of some of these new methods of money raising:—

A working woman is making and selling soap.

A singer is organising a concert, in which many leading artists have promised to take part.

An artist is drawing pictures on the pavement.

Another singer is singing to theatre-goers in the street.

Well-known authoresses are collecting at Metropolitan stations in the Kensington district.

Other women, who cannot go to prison, have adopted prison diet, and are saving all they can for the fund.

Barrel organs are being played in the street.

Jewellery and real lace have been sent to the office to be sold for the campaign.

A journalist is giving 10 per cent. of all she earns.

A lady is giving up a fine house, and sending us the year's rent—£250.

Miss Gawthorpe is wearing a special sash, made with "Self-Denial Week" painted on it, and is going about all the week with a bag labelled with the same device, for contributions.

Everywhere the work is being taken up with enthusiasm and with women's wit and spirit. Our 50 prisoners in Holloway have set a very high standard of self-sacrifice and devotion. For their sakes, as well as our own, we are all going to do our very utmost.

I shall be expecting the collecting-cards back after next Monday. The sum total must run into four figures. The exact amount will be declared at the great demonstration in the Albert Hall on March 19.

Work and earn, save, collect, give money for the Votes for Women campaign.

Press Notices.

Not the least remarkable feature of the past week—a week memorable in many ways—has been the length and number of the Press notices devoted to the work of the N.W.S.P.U. Self-Denial Week has earned the attention of well-nigh every London daily and weekly paper. The *Graphic*, on February 18, reproduced photographs and trophies of the latest raids, and on Tuesday, February 18, the *Daily Telegraph* gave three whole columns to us, including a special account written by Mrs. Pankhurst of prison life. The provincial papers have followed suit with long notices and special articles on our work.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS.

Up to the End of February (as far as at present arranged).

Feb. 20 (Thurs.)	London, 4, Clements Inn, "At Home"	Miss Christabel Pankhurst	8 p.m.
	Glasgow, Hill Head Burgh Hall	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence	3 p.m.
	Kilmarnock	Miss Seymour, Miss Fraser	...
	Peckham, School Room, Asylum road	Miss H. Lightman	8.30 p.m.
	Bowes Park, Public Meeting	Mrs. Drummond, Miss New, and other released prisoners	8 p.m.
Feb. 21 (Sat.)	Hamilton	Miss Seymour, Miss Fraser	...
Feb. 22 (Sat.)	Glasgow, "At Home," 141, Bath Street	Miss Seymour, Miss H. Fraser	...
Feb. 24	London, Portman Rooms, At Home	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Christabel Pankhurst	4-6 p.m.
	Leeds, Protest Meeting	Miss Gawthorpe	8 p.m.
Feb. 25	Norwood	Dr. Jones	...
	Sheffield, Protest Meeting	Miss Gawthorpe	8 p.m.
	Walthamstow, Wood Street Debating Society	Mrs. Snelling	8 p.m.
Feb. 26	Forest Gate, Earham-road	Miss Christabel Pankhurst	8 p.m.
	Bradford, Protest Meeting	Miss Gawthorpe	8 p.m.
Feb. 27	London, 4, Clements Inn	At Home	8 p.m.
	Hull, Protest Meeting	Miss Gawthorpe	8 p.m.
Feb. 28	Manchester, Protest Meeting	Miss Gawthorpe	8 p.m.
Feb. 29	Liverpool, Protest Meeting	Miss Gawthorpe	8 p.m.

Important Future Events.

Mar. 3	Portman Rooms, Lecture	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence	8.30 p.m.
Mar. 10	Portman Rooms, Lecture	Dr. Garrett Anderson	8.30 p.m.
Mar. 19	Royal Albert Hall	Mrs. Pankhurst, and others	8 p.m.
Mar. 24	Portman Rooms, Lecture	Mrs. Pankhurst	8.30 p.m.
Mar. 31	Portman Rooms, Lecture	Miss Ellis Robins	8.30 p.m.
April 7	Portman Rooms, Lecture	Miss C. Pankhurst	8.30 p.m.
June 21	Hyde Park Demonstration	All the Leaders	3 p.m.

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